Question for written answer E-000774/2022 to the Commission Rule 138 Loucas Fourlas (PPE)

Subject: Industrial accidents in the EU

In the last decade, around 2.5 million workplace accidents occurred in the EU, over 3 000 of which were fatal.

with clear disparities between the Member States, ranging from 6.42 fatal accidents per 100 000 workers in Luxembourg, which is top of the list, followed by Romania (5.27), Latvia (4.69), Cyprus (4.51) and Austria (4.31). By contrast, the accident rate was lowest in Netherlands and Belgium, which recorded 0.87 fatal accidents per 100 000 workers, followed by Germany (1.00), Finland (1.28), Sweden (1.66) and Greece (1.69).

It is understandable that the statistics change every year, but unfortunately the desired progress in rapidly reducing the number of accidents has not been achieved, with Eurostat figures showing 2.87 fatal accidents per 100 000 workers in 2010 and 2.21 in 2018. At the same time, a number of worrying factors need to be addressed.

Can the Commission say why security inspections have been reduced by one-fifth since 2010? Inspections are being carried out less frequently in at least sixteen countries. Is it concerned about the loss of over 1 000 labour inspectors and how does it intend to remedy this?