

**Question for written answer E-001299/2023**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Laura Ferrara (NI)**

**Subject:** Need to amend the provisions on paternity leave under Directive (EU) 2019/1158

Under Article 4 of Directive (EU) 2019/1158 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on work-life balance for parents and carers, working fathers are entitled to take ten days' paid paternal leave following the birth of a child.

However, there are still major differences between Member States when it comes to the number of days' leave and the remuneration to which fathers are entitled, be this for paternity leave or for parental leave.

Indeed, while some countries by far outstrip the 10-day minimum set by the Directive, others – including Greece, Belgium and Italy – barely match or fall short of it.

In view of the above, and for the purpose of both harmonising the legislation on paternal leave and of ensuring the equal sharing of parenting responsibilities – which would in turn reduce both the burden of maternal care and gender inequalities – can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does it plan to review the above directive with an eye to increasing the duration of paternity leave?
2. Does it also intend to harmonise the duration and remuneration of parental leave across the Member States?

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