Question for oral answer O-000124/2016
to the Commission
Rule 128

Subject: Switch between summer and winter time

When the co-legislators decided on Directive 2000/84/EC on summer-time arrangements, the underlying assumption was that a number of benefits would be achieved. In the meantime scientific evidence has proved the opposite, highlighting the need to re-evaluate this practice.

Commissioner Bulc announced on 5 October 2016 that her services would be analysing the impact of the current arrangements. In the light of this, the following questions come to mind:

1. What is the assessment of the benefits and costs of the practice of switching times, including evidence from all the following sectors: energy, health, agriculture and transport?

2. What is the effect of changing the clocks on citizens’ health, and in particular on that of sensitive people such as children and the elderly?

3. What is the impact of summer time on the competitiveness of European industry, including energy prices and consumption?

Tabled: 17.10.2016