

**Question for oral answer O-000053/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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Subject: Making the fundamental right to a healthy and safe working environment a reality

On 10 June 2022, the International Labour Organization made access to a healthy and safe working environment a fundamental right. Yet the death toll at work continues to rise. Every day, at least nine Europeans lose their lives, according to 2020 figures (3 355 deaths in Europe). In some Member States, work-related deaths are even on the rise. Behind each of these tragedies, which mostly affect young workers, the lives of families and loved ones are turned upside down. This injustice is compounded by the fact that every work-related death is a preventable one. There is nothing inevitable about this phenomenon.

1. Over and above the recommendations made to the Member States, what further action does the Commission intend to take to ensure the effectivity of the fundamental right to a healthy and safe working environment and achieve its objective of zero deaths at work by 2030?
2. Is the Commission considering a reform of Directive 89/391/EEC to increase the level of health and safety requirements at work and of Directive 89/654/EEC to ensure healthier and safer workplaces?
3. Every year, 23 % of Europeans are forced to work in extreme heat at least a quarter of the time. However, above 30 °C, the risk of an accident at work increases by 5 to 7 %, and above 38 °C by 10 to 15 %. Does the Commission intend to transform its recommendations to the Member States into binding standards in this area, in particular by setting a maximum working temperature?

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Lapses: 7.2.2024