

Question for written answer E-015476/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Petr Mach (EFDD)

Subject: Summer time II

Recently, the meaning and purpose of the rules set out in Directive 2000/84/EC of the European Parliament and the Council on summer-time arrangements have been interpreted as solely the fixing of a common date and time for the beginning and end of the summer-time period where EU Member States apply summer time. According to this interpretation, EU law does not require Member States to apply summer time (or a switch between winter and summer time) on their territory, but merely requires them to ensure that the summer-time period starts and ends at the same time in the Member States which already apply it.

Does the Commission (as the author of this directive at the time) agree with this interpretation? Does it take the view that a Member State may completely abolish summer time and apply a single time arrangement throughout the year without this being in breach of EU law?