

**Question for written answer E-015407/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Exclusion of medical staff from certain rights relating to working time

In December 2014, the Commission decided to discontinue its infringement proceedings against Italy (2011/4185) regarding the exclusion of medical staff from the right to daily rest and to reasonable weekly working hours.

This decision came in the wake of Italy's adoption of Law No 161/2014, by which it repealed two laws that failed to correctly implement EU legislation on working time.

The repeal took place one year before the entry into force of the law on 25 November 2015, yet the situation of medical staff has not changed, and they still have to endure disproportionately long and illegitimate working hours, thereby endangering patient safety.

The Court of Justice of the European Union had already reiterated in its judgments C-303/98 and C-151/02 the right of Italian doctors and health service managers to maximum weekly working hours and to a guaranteed minimum rest period of 11 consecutive hours every 24 hours.

In view of the above and having regard to Directive 2003/88/EC, can the Commission answer the following questions:

- How does it intend to protect Italian medical staff from further mistreatment?
- Will it reopen the above-mentioned infringement proceedings against Italy, or maybe open new proceedings?