

**Question for written answer E-003456/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Protecting workers from extreme heatwaves

Climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme heatwaves in the EU. This resulted in May 2026 becoming the hottest May on record in France.

Workers in environments that are highly exposed to heat, such as agriculture, construction, industry, logistics and the maintenance of public spaces, face growing health and safety risks. According to the International Labour Organization, heat-related deaths in the workplace have increased by 42 % since 2000.

While Directive 89/391/EEC imposes a general obligation on employers to protect the health and safety of their workers, it does not establish specific provisions with regard to the risks from extreme heatwaves.

In light of the above:

1. In the short term, what steps does the Commission intend to take?
2. Will the European framework law on adaptation to climate change require plans for the adaptation of working conditions to be established at sector and company level?
3. Will the Quality Jobs Act impose binding measures concerning the adaptation of working conditions in the event of extreme heatwaves?

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