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Answer given by Ms Šuica
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Commission is fully aware of the interrelated demographic challenges that the EU and its Member States are facing. That is why it adopted the Demography Toolbox Communication¹ in 2023 to lay out a comprehensive set of tools and measures to support Member States in managing demographic change, in full respect of the division of competences and the diverse local realities. The toolbox aims to facilitate the reconciliation of personal family aspirations and paid work, to empower younger and older generations to thrive, while helping to tackle labour shortages through managed legal migration where necessary. The Toolbox also underlines that gender equality, non-discrimination, respect of fundamental rights and intergenerational fairness must guide these efforts at all times. The implementation of the Toolbox and the initiatives therein is ongoing.

While demographic challenges concern all Member States, their impact differs depending on national, regional and local circumstances. To contribute to the implementation of the upcoming National Action Plan for Demography, Greece will establish a dedicated Observatory, with support from the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+). Moreover, the Commission's Atlas of Demography will be transformed into a dynamic platform for the creation and dissemination of knowledge on demographic issues at EU level. It facilitates mutual learning and exchange by combining evidence, stories and networking with Commission services and demographic experts, as well as regional, national and local authorities. The Commission and Member States also exchange relevant information as part of the Pension Adequacy Reports² and the implementation of the Council Recommendation on long-term care³.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/publications/communication-demographic-change-europe-toolbox-action_en

² <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&furtherNews=yes&newsId=10854>

³ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2022.476.01.0001.01.ENG