

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001992/25
to the Commission
Katri Kulmuni (Renew)
(19 May 2025)**

Subject: Discontinuing seasonal clock changes in the EU

On 12 September 2018, the Commission brought forward a proposal for a directive on discontinuing seasonal changes of time (2018/0332/COD). On 26 March 2019, the European Parliament adopted a legislative resolution on the matter by 410 votes to 192. In a Commission survey of 4.6 million EU citizens, 84% were in favour of stopping clock changes. No progress has been made, however, because the Council of Ministers has failed to take the matter into consideration.

Changing the clocks is not only bothersome for people: it has also been found to have adverse effects on many people's health and, for example, on livestock sector. The practice of changing the clocks was originally justified in order to save energy, but it doesn't seem appropriate nowadays. Although this may not be one of the most pressing issues at the moment, it would be beneficial for the credibility of EU decision-making to implement a change that has already been decided and is relatively simple to put in place.

In the light of the above, is the Commission intending to take steps either to abolish regulation on clock changes in the EU entirely, or to give Member States the power to decide on the matter for themselves?

Submitted: 19.5.2025

**Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas on behalf of the European Commission
(31 July 2025)**

Since the start of the new College, the Commission has been actively engaging with successive Council Presidencies and individual Member States to reflect upon the legal and practical issues raised by the earlier discussions between the co-legislators on the proposed Directive discontinuing seasonal changes of time and repealing Directive 2000/84/EC ⁽¹⁾, and to examine the possibilities for the resumption of those discussions.

In this context, following discussions on the proposal initiated by the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU, the Commission has decided to respond to a Member State call for further analysis to be undertaken on this matter. A study is accordingly expected to be launched in 2025, and the European Parliament will be kept fully informed of its progress.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2000/84/oj/eng>.