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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Minzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.6.2026)

The statistical office of the EU (Eurostat) collects statistics on accidents at work¹ reported by Member States' statistical authorities. Data on individual Italian regions such as Sicily are not published by Eurostat.

EU occupational safety and health (OSH) legislation applies to all workers, including those working for subcontractors or in precarious employment. The Framework Directive 89/391/EC² requires that employers sharing a workplace (who may be contractors or subcontractors) cooperate in implementing health and safety provisions, coordinate their actions and inform one another and their workers of the OSH risks. The EU OSH directives set obligations for all employers, including contractors and subcontractors. Member States have to transpose EU directives into national law and enforce relevant national transposing provisions. They are competent to decide on the organisation of enforcement authorities and on the nature, frequency, procedure and other characteristics of such controls. The Commission promotes better and equivalent enforcement through activities of the Senior Labour Inspectors' Committee.

In the 2021-2027 programming period, the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) is the EU's main financial tool to invest in people. Implemented in shared management, Member States can decide to use the ESF+ to co-finance projects. Under the specific objectives set out in Article 4(1) points (b) and (d) of the ESF+ Regulation³, Member States could use the ESF+ to support, amongst others, training and prevention programmes as well as the digitalisation of labor inspections with a view to reducing workplace fatalities.

¹ Data collection implemented by the Commission Regulation (EU) No 349/2011 of 11 April 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on accidents at work.

² Council Directive 89/391/EEC of 12 June 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work (OJ L 183, 29.6.1989, p. 1) - <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A01989L0391-20081211>.

³ Regulation (EU) 2021/1057 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 establishing the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013.