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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.8.2026)

The Commission is committed to ensuring dignified working and living conditions for third-country seasonal workers. Directive 2014/36/EU¹ provides specific requirements in this regard, including on adequate accommodation, equal treatment as regards working conditions and occupational safety and health, complaint mechanisms, redress and sanctions. While public health surveillance, healthcare organisation and the enforcement of labour, housing and occupational safety and health rules are primarily the responsibility of Member States, the Commission monitors the correct implementation of Directive 2014/36/EU.

The Directive applies to third-country nationals admitted for seasonal work, including in agriculture, irrespective of whether the employer receives Common Agricultural Policy funding.

The Commission has not harmonised EU-wide comparative data on seasonal farm workers' living conditions. However, its 2026 implementation report on Directive 2014/36/EU² confirmed that the Directive remains fit for purpose. It identified persistent challenges in some Member States, notably on adequate accommodation, information provision, change of employer, complaints and redress, monitoring, inspections and sanctions. As for the next steps, the Commission will continue monitoring the correct implementation of the Directive, including via the ongoing infringement procedures, and supporting Member States, including through Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund funding. In the context of the upcoming Fair Labour Mobility Package, the planned revision of the European Labour Authority's mandate aims, inter alia, to enable it to address abuses affecting third-country nationals, including seasonal workers.

¹ Directive 2014/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the conditions of entry and stay of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers, OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, pp. 375–390.

² Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council in accordance with Article 27 of Directive 2014/36/EU on the conditions of entry and stay of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers, 8.5.2026, COM(2026) 261 final.