

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003042/26
to the Commission
Anthony Smith (The Left)
(17 July 2026)**

Subject: Official recognition of a European Day in Remembrance of the Victims of Accidents at Work

According to Eurostat, nearly 3 300 people died as a result of an accident at work in the EU in 2023. Occupational diseases claim even more lives: the Commission estimates that work-related cancers cause around 100 000 deaths per year. Although the EU has set itself a ‘zero deaths’ target (‘Vision Zero’) in its strategic framework on health and safety at work 2021-27, it has never designated a specific date to honour the memory of these victims.

In its resolution of 21 May 2026, adopted by a large majority, the European Parliament called for the establishment of a European Day in Remembrance of the Victims of Accidents at Work and for the Protection and Dignity of Workers, to be marked each year on 8 August. As that resolution is not binding, it falls on the Commission to make this day a reality.

1. Does the Commission intend to act on this call by officially designating 8 August as the European Day in Remembrance of the Victims of Accidents at Work?
2. If not, would it consider dedicating 28 April, the World Day for Safety and Health at Work, to the remembrance of these victims?
3. What timeframe and arrangements does it envisage for this purpose?

Submitted: 17.7.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Minzatu on behalf of the European Commission
(21 August 2026)**

The Commission has taken due note of the European Parliament resolution of 21 May 2026 calling for European Day in Remembrance of the Victims of Accidents at Work and for the Protection and Dignity of Workers, to be observed annually on 8 August. It has also taken note of similar calls made by several Member States at the Council meeting of employment and social affairs ministers on 29 June 2026.

In response, the Commission proposes that, together with the European Parliament and the Council, an annual ‘European Day in remembrance of the victims of accidents at work’ is established, to be observed on 8 August each year.

The Day of Remembrance is intended to provide an annual occasion for commemoration and for joint awareness-raising on the importance of safety and health at work. Further details regarding the timing and the related preparatory activities will be determined in due course in cooperation with the European Parliament and the Council.
