*(English version)*

**Priority question for written answer P-000710/26**
**to the Commission**
**Anthony Smith (The Left)**
*(19 February 2026)*

*Subject:* Follow-up to question for written answer E-004181/2025 on labour arrangements for prison inmates

In its answer ([1]) to Question E-004181/2025 ([2]), the Commission stated that it is primarily the responsibility of the Member States to ensure the correct application of the relevant legal provisions applicable to inmates, including where inmates may classify as workers, as laid down in Article 6 of Directive (EU) 2022/2041 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on adequate minimum wages in the European Union.

In view of the above:

1. Can the Commission confirm whether all Member States have transposed the directive into national law?

2. How does the Commission monitor the transposition of this directive in Member States?

3. Will the Commission make the necessary arrangements to ensure that the work of inmates in the EU is monitored?

Submitted: 19.2.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu on behalf of the European Commission**
*(17 March 2026)*

As of end February 2026, 22 out of the 27 Member States have notified the complete transposition of Directive (EU) 2022/2041 on adequate minimum wages in the European Union ([1]).

Three Member States have notified partial transposition and two have not yet notified any transposition measures. The Commission is closely monitoring the state of play of the transposition process in the few Member States that have not yet notified full transposition of this directive and will take appropriate action if necessary.

In parallel, the Commission is currently carrying out the compliance assessment of the transposition measures that have been notified by Member States, in line with what is foreseen in this respect in the Better Regulation Guidelines and Toolbox ([2]).

In the context of this assessment, the Commission will also check the compliance with Article 6 of the directive of any national provision that establishes a variation of the statutory minimum wage for prison inmates, provided that they fall within the personal scope of the directive.

This will be the case where they have an employment relationship as defined by law, collective agreements or practice in force in each Member State, with consideration to the case-law of the Court of Justice.

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1 https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004181-ASW_EN.html
2 https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004181_EN.html
([1]) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2022/2041/oj/eng.
([2]) See, in particular, Tool #39 of the Better Regulation Toolbox: https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation/better-regulation-guidelines-and-toolbox/better-regulation-toolbox_en.