Question for written answer E-002583/2024 to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Review of action and limit values for vibration injuries at work

On 15 October 2024, the Swedish trade union Byggnads published a study which showed that three out of four Swedish building workers have symptoms of vibration injuries.

Byggnads asked around 4 500 members about their use of vibrating tools, their knowledge of the risks and their own symptoms.

The survey showed that it wasn't just older workers who were affected: fully 58 % of building workers aged 18-29 replied that they had symptoms of vibration injuries.

In addition, just 22 % said they had received information on how long they should be working with the tools provided. 36 % replied that they had received information or training from their employer on the risks of vibrating tools. 22 % were aware of the vibration value of the tool they used most frequently.

Byggnads also pointed out that research shows that one in ten workers suffer from vibration injuries after just five years, even if the action values – as expressed in Swedish and EU law – are followed.

With that in mind:

- 1. Will the Commission raise this issue in the Advisory Committee on Safety and Health at Work to ensure that the EU action and limit values for daily exposure to vibrations are in line with the latest research?
- 2. Has the Commission considered also restricting the sale within the EU of tools and machinery with unreasonably high vibration values?

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