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**Abandoning the EU’s summer-time arrangements under Directive 2000/84/EC**

**─ Non-paper by Finland, X, Y (TBC)**

Since the adoption of the Directive 2000/84/EC, new research has increased our understanding of the impacts of switching between summer time and standard time. Energy savings have proved to be minor. There are also many research results on adverse health effects. Since the arrangements apply to everyone, the matter has even implications on public health. It has also been stated that the changing of the clocks has complicated business activities and transport arrangements, for example.

Abandoning the switching of the clocks is very important for citizens. For instance, there has been a citizens’ initiative in Finland to abandon the switching of the clocks to summer time [examples of discussions/initiatives in other Member States to be added]. Furthermore, the European parliament has called on the Commission to conduct a thorough assessment of the 2000/84/EC on summer-time arrangements and, if necessary, to table a proposal to revise it.

**We see that the switching of the clocks should be abandoned in a unified manner in the EU.** As the abandoning of the EU’s summer-time arrangements requires an initiative from the European Commission, **we call for actions from the Commission to revise the Directive 2000/84/EC**.

In order to increase our understanding, **we ask the Commission to produce impact assessment** of the summer-time arrangements and the bi-annual switching of the clocks. We do not take a stand on whether the summer or standard time should be observed throughout the year.

**Harmonisation is the key element:** Currently, summer time is applied on a harmonised basis across the EU. It is essential to maintain a harmonised approach also in the future. It is particularly vital for the functioning of transport systems and services. Harmonisation provides convenience and predictability for businesses and citizens alike and ensures the proper functioning of the internal market.