

8 March 2018

**Abandoning the EU's summer-time arrangements**  
- **Enquiry about the views of the EU Member States**

Dear Colleagues,

Since the adoption of the Directive 2000/84/EC on summer-time arrangements, 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. The most recent and comprehensive study on the issue has been conducted by the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) in October 2017<sup>1</sup>.

In order to start discussions on this matter, we would need to get in contact with the competent ministry responsible for the summer-time arrangements in your country.

We would kindly ask you to answer the following questions:

- What is the competent authority in your country dealing with the issue of summer-time arrangements (e.g. Ministry of Transport)? Please provide a contact person.
- Have there been any discussions about abandoning the summer-time arrangements in your country? If yes, have there been any significant statements or initiatives from citizens or the business sector concerning the summer-time arrangements?
- Have there been any important research projects about the effects of the summer-time arrangements in your country?

Please find also attached a draft non-paper for your consideration. The idea of this non-paper is to ask the Commission to propose an initiative to abandon the EU's summer-time arrangements under Directive 2000/84/EC. As it is of utmost importance that the EU proceeds in a unified manner in order to avoid any disturbance on the function of the internal market and transport, we welcome all EU Member States to further develop and co-sponsor this non-paper.


We would be very grateful for your contribution and look forward to receiving your reply **by 13 April 2018**. Please send your reply to Mr. Leif

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/611006/EPRS\\_STU\(2017\)611006\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/611006/EPRS_STU(2017)611006_EN.pdf)

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Sincerely yours,



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