



Council of the
European Union

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COVER NOTE

From:	European Economic and Social Committee
To:	Council of the European Union
No. prev. doc.:	11188/20 + ADD 1 - COM(2020) 571 final
Subject:	Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work - Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee

Delegations will find attached the European Economic and Social Committee's opinion regarding the above proposal.



SOC/659

Protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work

OPINION

European Economic and Social Committee

Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work

[COM(2020) 0571 - 2020/0262 (COD)]

Referral	European Commission, 22/09/2020 Council, 21/10/2020 European Parliament, 6/10/2020
Legal basis	Articles 153 (2) and 304 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
Section responsible	Section for Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship
Adopted at plenary	02/12/2020
Plenary session No	556
Outcome of vote (for/against/abstentions)	224/0/6

Since the Committee unreservedly endorses the content of the proposal and has already set out its views on the subject in its earlier opinions, namely SOC/545 – *Protection from cancer-causing chemicals*, adopted on 21 September 2016, SOC/559 – *Protection of workers from carcinogens or mutagens at work*, adopted on 31 May 2017, SOC/591 – *Protection of workers from carcinogens or mutagens at work*, adopted on 19 September 2018, and CCMI/130 – *Freeing the EU from asbestos*, adopted on 18 February 2015¹, it decided, at its 556th plenary session of 2 and 3 December 2020, by 224 votes with 6 abstentions, to issue an opinion endorsing the proposed text and to refer to the position it had taken in the above-mentioned documents.

Brussels, 2 December 2020

Christa SCHWENG

The president of the European Economic and Social Committee

¹ [OJ C 487, 28.12.2016, p. 113](#); [OJ C 288, 31.8.2017, p.56](#); [OJ C 440, 6.12.2018, p. 145](#); [CCMI/130](#).