

**Question for written answer E-006487/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: New child poverty statistics

To mark International Children's Day, Statistics Portugal published data on the risk of poverty rate for under-18s. This data shows that the poverty risk level in 2012 was 24.4%, an increase of 2.6 points compared with 2011 (21.8%). These figures, which were published on 30 May 2014, indicate that the poverty risk rate for families with dependent children was, on average, 22.2% during this year.

Taken as a whole, the figures highlight the increasing social and economic vulnerability of single parent families and the unemployed, two groups which have increased. This should be added to the data showing that the poverty risk rate for these families is also increasing (33.6%) and that family groups comprising two adults with three or more children are at greater risk (40.4%), all of which vividly illustrates the child poverty scenario in Portugal.

Can the Commission therefore tell me what steps it is taking to combat poverty in Portugal, particularly child poverty, what specific initiatives are planned and what amounts will be budgeted for this over the coming years?