

**Question for written answer E-007423/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Immediate measures to create new jobs in Greece

The problem of unemployment among young people in the countries of southern Europe has become an explosive issue. The harsh policies dictated by the Memoranda are leading to the social exclusion and marginalisation of young people.

Particularly in Greece, the situation on the ground is very dramatic and the statistics are ominous. A recent OECD report on employment prospects (published on 03.09.2014), foresees that unemployment will remain high (around 27%) up to the end of 2015. According to this report, Greece has one of the highest percentages of long-term unemployment among the OECD countries, a percentage which increased from 49% to 71% between the fourth quarter of 2007 and first quarter of 2014.

The report also notes that the risk of a person remaining unemployed and the expected length of time he or she will remain unemployed are among the highest in the OECD countries, while the mechanisms of unemployment insurance (e.g. benefits and social security) are among the least effective.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

- How does it assess the impact of the Memorandum in Greece as regards the existing massive rate of unemployment?
- What steps will it take to create new jobs in Greece, especially for young people?