

**Question for written answer E-009712/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Timetable for review of the Posting of Workers Directive and areas to be covered

On 21 November 2014, the two main Belgian trade unions staged an information-gathering and awareness-raising exercise at a large site in the Charleroi area in protest at the Posting of Workers Directive.

They found people working on the site in deplorable conditions for extremely low wages, evidently in breach of the law or as the result of an abuse of the Posting of Workers Directive.

This was yet another example of employers exploiting the provisions on 'posting' as a means of undermining working conditions, cutting wages and depriving their workers of social security cover. Such practices also expose those companies which are observing Belgian and EU labour law to damaging unfair competition.

1. Is the Commission aware of the effect of such practices on ordinary people at a time of high unemployment with one in four Europeans at risk of poverty, and also on the majority of companies in the construction and transport sectors, for example, which are operating in difficult post-crisis market conditions?

The President of the Commission has undertaken to review the Posting of Workers Directive in order to combat social dumping and to ensure that workers' rights are observed.

2. Can the Commission give details of the timetable for the review and the areas it will cover?