

**Question for written answer E-009863/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Lidia Senra Rodríguez (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Useless structural reforms and phantom investments

In the debate on the employment package Mr Juncker, Mr Katainen and the representative of the European Investment Bank (EIB) insisted on the need for structural reforms and amendment of employment legislation. They went so far as to say that in countries where these reforms have been undertaken there is now investment.

Spain is often put forward as an example of this, and it has even been praised by EU authorities.

The crude reality is that, after these reforms and the investment they referred to, the level of unemployment has not stopped rising – youth unemployment is now over 50 % - despite the fact that more than a hundred thousand young people with good qualifications have had to leave Galicia. The jobs that can be found in my country are so precarious that being employed does not mean you will escape from poverty.

Poverty, hunger and social exclusion are still on the rise and over 20 % of Galician children find themselves in this situation.

1. Is Mr Juncker aware of the tragedy caused by the structural reforms he talks about?
2. Does he not think it is time to admit that austerity and neo-liberal policies have failed and that the economy should truly be put to the service of the people?