

**Question for written answer E-011088/2014**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Jutta Steinruck (S&D)**

**Subject:** Systematic use of the Posting of Workers Directive 96/71/EC by Atlanco Rimec/ Oradeo to exploit employees and evade social security contributions

The current legal regulations of the European Union under the Posting of Workers Directive are open to interpretation by the Member States. This means there is a legal grey area which job placement agencies such as Atlanco Rimec and Oradeo are systematically exploiting. The current practice is to tie employees to a contract of employment which is deliberately issued neither in the country of origin nor in the host country, but in the country which charges the lowest social security contributions. Employees are placed in accommodation unfit for human habitation, but still have to pay high rents. Employees who draw attention to inadequate health and safety precautions are summarily dismissed or even blackmailed or sued. When these practices are made public, tactics are used to downplay them, and lawsuits against trade union members and charitable associations ensue. The companies gladly accept convictions for promoting undeclared employment, because the profits far exceed the penalty payments. Information exists that Atlanco Rimec is increasingly transferring its activities to the company Oradeo. Given the background of these fraudulent practices:

1. Is the Commission aware of the unfair business practices of companies such as Atlanco Rimec and Oradeo?
2. Does the Commission share the opinion that the business practices described can only seriously be prevented by a revision of the 1996 Posting of Workers Directive?
3. What further steps is the Commission planning to counter the systematic exploitation of employees, the withholding of social security contributions and the evasion of occupational health and safety standards?