

**Question for written answer E-000170/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Massimo Paolucci (S&D)

Subject: Implementing the Youth Employment Initiative (Youth Guarantee) and the EU reference framework

The implementation of the Youth Employment Initiative (Youth Guarantee) is not producing the desired results and a sizeable amount of the resources earmarked for the initiative have not been used in the regions where they are needed the most and where every effort should be made to make best use of them.

The national plans for the implementation of the Youth Guarantee were presented within an EU reference framework which was so broad that the implementation methods adopted not only differ between Member States but even within the individual Member States.

The definition of joint minimum criteria, standards and objectives at EU level, e.g. minimum placement percentages for training, a clear time frame for each stage of the initiative and efficiency and transparency criteria, may have enabled the initiative to be more successful.

In light of this, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. In the 2015 work programme, the Commission states that it wishes to take the Youth Guarantee further. Does the Commission therefore believe that it is necessary to take a political and legislative initiative to provide Member States with a more stringent legislative framework to improve the effectiveness of the Youth Employment Initiative?
2. What data does the Commission have on the implementation of the Youth Guarantee in Italy and how would it rate its success?