

**Question for written answer E-001153/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Austerity measures in Greece

At the end of December, the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) published a report outlining the results of a survey conducted in Greece in January 2014. It describes a country where austerity measures, the conditions applied to international loans as laid down by the European Union and the International Monetary Fund, the country's creditors, are a threat to human rights.

Workers' rights in particular have been seriously undermined as a result. Following the second international loan to the country in February 2012, the minimum wage has fallen by 22%. Unemployment has broken all records; according to the latest figures published on Tuesday, it has now reached 25.5 % – this is also stressed in the report. Health services have become another victim of budgetary cuts.

Political rights and the freedom of expression have also suffered; cases in point being police violence against demonstrators, an increase in xenophobic attacks and the closure of the state broadcaster.

1. What is the Commission's reaction to this?
2. Does it intend to rethink the austerity measures it has imposed on Greece?