

**Question for written answer E-002748/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Hugues Bayet (S&D) and Maria Arena (S&D)**

Subject: A European unemployment benefit scheme

The Bertelsmann Stiftung and the Commission organised a conference entitled 'Economic shock absorbers for the eurozone. Deepening the debate on automatic stabilisers'. The aim of the conference, which took place on 20 June 2014, was to debate the various aspects of unemployment-based fiscal stabilisers and the benefits which such a policy could have for European monetary union. This is an issue which has also been addressed by Parliament, including in its 'Mapping the Cost of Non-Europe 2014-2019' study, which estimated the potential savings from an unemployment insurance scheme for the eurozone to be EUR 15 billion. Another report published by Parliament's Research Service, entitled 'Freedom of movement and residence of European citizens', looks again at the proposal by many experts and stakeholders to create a European unemployment benefit scheme and at the potential benefits it could bring to the eurozone and Europe as a whole by tackling asymmetric shocks.

1. What is the Commission's stance on a European unemployment benefit scheme?
2. Does it plan to carry out an impact assessment and to bring forward proposals on this issue?