Question for written answer E-002779/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Salaries paid with social support

The Commission's Annual Growth Survey for 2015 states that 'benefit systems should combine adequate income replacement with activating and enabling services, targeted at individual needs'. In many countries, including Portugal, there are reports of situations in which unemployed workers who are receiving unemployment benefits have permanent jobs which they have obtained through so-called employability programmes. These jobs may be permanent, but they work out cheaper for the employer and create an unstable and precarious situation for the employee.

What is meant by 'activating and enabling services, targeted at individual needs'?

Does the Commission consider it acceptable that these services can create a situation in which a worker receiving unemployment benefits holds a permanent job position?

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