

**Question for written answer E-002921/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Viorica Dăncilă (S&D)**

Subject: Women in agriculture

In many EU Member States, women in rural areas have limited access to the job market, and have relatively little chance to develop an agricultural business. This was confirmed in a survey conducted by DG Agriculture and Rural Development in May 2014.

The results of the survey also show that the vast majority of farms in the EU are owned by men, and only a very small proportion by women. The study also notes that the farms owned by women are smaller both in terms of surface area and in terms of productive value.

1. Does the Commission have plans to establish a new European programme to support access to the job market for women in rural areas by setting a separate objective for that category – e.g. via a 'European guarantee for rural women' along the lines of the European Youth Guarantee?
2. Does it plan to implement European programmes to support the development of agricultural undertakings owned by women?
3. Will it create a European programme to encourage and support women who want to open businesses, including agricultural undertakings, in rural areas?