

**Question for written answer E-004705/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Encouraging work to statutory retirement age in Croatia

The Croatian Institute of Public Finance has warned that the ratio of an average pension to an average salary in Croatia is lower than in most EU countries. This stems from the inefficient pension system in which only 13% of pensioners have pensionable service of 40 years or more. There is an assumption that since the citizens can no longer expect the pension system to provide for a financially comfortable old age, they should take the responsibility themselves through various forms of personal savings. The increasing proportion of those who retire early is seen as one of the main causes of the instability of the pension system - among those who retired in 2014 early retirees accounted for as much as 35%. There is no doubt that in order to stabilise the pension system Croatia will be forced to make serious efforts towards encouraging citizens to work until their statutory retirement age, which is also the proposal of the European Commission.

1. What are the models of best practice within the EU for encouraging work to the statutory retirement age?
2. Does the European Commission have recommendations for Croatia for encouraging work to the statutory retirement age?