

Question for written answer E-005024/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Poverty and social exclusion in southern Europe

In January 2015 the European Commission published 'Employment and Social Developments in Europe 2014.' The report emphasises that poverty and social exclusion are undermining southern Europe, already affected by economic recession.

In Greece, the proportion of people under threat of poverty rose from 28.1% in 2008 to 35.7% in 2013. The percentage of Greeks struggling to afford goods of primary necessity rose from 11.2% in 2008 to 20.3% in 2013. Long-term unemployment in Greece rose from 3.7% in 2008 to 18.6% in 2013, while Greece, Spain, France and Italy had the lowest rates of progression from temporary to permanent contracts of employment in 2011-2012. At the same time, Spain and Greece had the highest numbers of young people forced to continue living in, or to return to, their parental homes. Those countries also have the largest numbers of households without material resources.

Is the Commission aware of the social crisis affecting southern Europe, which runs counter to the objective of social inclusion set by the Europe 2020 strategy?

What specific measures does the Commission plan to take against the social exclusion affecting southern Europe?