

**Question for written answer E-005025/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Notis Marias (ECR)**

Subject: Violation of the European Social Charter in Greece by the Commission, as a member of the troika

On 22 April 2013, the European Committee of Social Rights published five decisions on collective complaints. These had been filed by Greek trade unions against the austerity measures imposed by the troika, in amendment of Greece's public and private pension schemes. The Committee found that the reform of the pension systems, involving significant benefit cutbacks, had restricted social security entitlements in Greece and violated the European Social Charter.

According to Article 151 of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union, the actions of the Union and the Member States must conform to the fundamental social rights set out in the European Social Charter of 1961.

As the agent of the Member States within the troika, the Commission is involved in the infringement of these fundamental social rights.

1. How does the Commission, the supposed guardian of the treaties, justify the treaty infringement described?
2. What measures does it plan to take to end this violation?