

**Question for written answer E-006261/2015
to the Council**

Rule 130

**Kostadinka Kuneva (GUE/NGL), Kostas Chrysogonos (GUE/NGL), Sofia Sakorafa (GUE/NGL)
and Stelios Kouloglou (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Effect of unemployment on GDP of Greece and its trading partners

According to research by academics at the National Technical University of Athens, the sharp rise in unemployment in Greece between 2008 and 2014 is responsible for 65 % of the overall drop in Greece's GDP. The four-fold increase in unemployment of salaried workers has caused a EUR 40 billion hole in the Greek economy and reduced the GDP of Greece's major trading partners in the EU by almost EUR 12 billion. Production suffered most in the tertiary sector in Greece and in the secondary sector for its trading partners. Year on year, Greece's GDP drops by EUR 11 000 and the GDP of Greece's trading partners in the EU drops by EUR 3 000 for every worker who remains unemployed.

In view of the extreme conditions caused by an unemployment rate of 26 %, will the Council say:

1. Does it intend to action emergency fast-track employment programmes in Greece and in each country in which unemployment is well above the EU average?
2. Does it believe that the Greece's GDP can recover without mass re-integration of unemployed persons into the job market?