

**Question for written answer E-006517/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Kostas Chrysogonos (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Commission insistence on the deregulation of lay-offs in Greece

A recent report by the International Monetary Fund states that 'labor market regulation is not found to have statistically significant effects on total factor productivity'¹. However, despite the implicit acknowledgement of the mistaken nature of the policy imposed in Greece which has had disastrous results to date for employment, given that unemployment has risen to over 26%², according to leaks from the negotiations between the Greek government and the Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund, it seems that the institutions persist in seeking the deregulation of mass lay-offs in Greece³.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

Can it confirm the content of the leaks regarding its insistence on the deregulation of lay-offs? What is the reason behind such an insistence on measures that weaken growth rather than strengthening it?

¹ <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2015/01/pdf/c3.pdf>, p. 105

² http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/General/LivingConditionsInGreece_0315.pdf

³ <http://www.tanea.gr/news/politics/article/5229034/stoxeyei-se-symfwnia-me-doseis>