

Question for written answer E-006913/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (NI)

Subject: Europe 2020: Percentage target for tertiary graduation

One of the Commission's Europe 2020 headline targets is a 40% tertiary graduation rate. At a time of rising graduate unemployment rates and scarcity of skilled industrial labour, it is doubtful whether such a percentage target makes sense. It would be much more worthwhile to offer targeted support to vocational training programmes, for which there is real economic demand.

1. Does the Commission still stand by its 40% tertiary graduation target?
2. Does the Commission consider a percentage graduation target, without distinction among disciplines, to be an effective way to prevent rising unemployment rates? What is the Commission's stance on rising graduate unemployment?
3. How are the specific features of each Member State's educational system and differences between academic titles to be taken into account?