Question for written answer E-007985/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Economic recovery and restarting public investment

The Commission has just reported the favourable economic conditions that, according to it, give a glimpse of the start of the economic recovery.

Its figures are as follows: in 2015, the EU and the euro area should see their real GDP grow by 1.8 % and 1.5 %, respectively, representing gains of 0.1 and 0.2 percentage points on forecasts from three months ago. For 2016, the Commission is forecasting 2.1 % growth for the EU and 1.9 % for the euro area.

Although there are some signs of a recovery, albeit not one that is affecting employment or household incomes yet, it remains difficult to deduce from this that structural growth is taking place.

In view of this, is now not the time to encourage productive public investment, in order to nourish these shoots of economic recovery and try to achieve a structural recovery?

In addition to public investments made under the European Fund for Strategic Investments, should other strategic public investments relating to the economy, healthcare and education – reduced by application of the European System of Accounts of 2010 – not be neutralised when calculating deficits? Would this not represent going a step further in relation to the Commission communication of 13 January 2013, regarding flexibility?