

**Question for written answer E-008285/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

Subject: Active ageing in the EU

Increasing life expectancy is one of the key factors in the long-term development of the EU. It is not just an economic and demographic challenge, however, but also a societal one. About 16 % of EU citizens are over 65.

The Commission, working in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, introduced the Active Ageing Index (AAI) in 2013. The AAI measures participation in society, including voluntary activities, and the proportion of older people who can lead independent, safe and healthy lives. It also takes account of the different ways in which individual EU countries promote active ageing.

According to AAI statistics, in 2014 most Member States were struggling to help older people contribute to society, culture, the economy or politics. This has left older people feeling excluded from societal and economic life, and a million EU citizens who want to be more active and useful to society are under-represented politically.

What conclusions has the Commission drawn from the AAI and how does it plan to use European social policy to help older people become more active?