

Question for written answer E-009113/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Because of the 'Memorandum' policies imposed by the Troika and creditors, Greece has become Europe's 'unemployment champion'

Articles 9 and 147, paragraph 2, TFEU provide that the Union shall contribute to the promotion of a high level of employment which shall be taken into consideration in the formulation and implementation of Union policies and activities.

The brutal fiscal adjustment policy, austerity, the extortionate tax policy and the other 'Memorandum' policies imposed on Greece by the Troika have led to soaring unemployment, making Greece the unemployment champion of Europe.

According to recent Eurostat data of 2015, unemployment in Greece is running at 25.4%, with women's unemployment at 29.1% and men's at 22.4%. Unemployment among young people aged 15-24 stands at 50.1%, the highest in the EU, and the absolute number of unemployed is 1.206 million, while the unemployment rate in EU-28 stands at 9.7% and 11.1% in the euro area.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

- In its negotiations, as a member of the Troika, with the Greek government, will it ultimately continue to insist on the above failed 'Memorandum' policies which have led to soaring unemployment in Greece?

- What steps will it take, as an EU institution, while duly respecting the responsibilities of the Greek authorities, to help tackle unemployment and support the unemployed, particularly women and young people?