

**Question for written answer E-009331/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Slavery in Luxembourg

Last week, the Portuguese and Luxembourg media reported various cases of exploitation of Portuguese construction workers in Luxembourg, in violation of the country's law, in circumstances that make up a situation that could even be described as slavery.

Motivated by the hope of better wages, hundreds of workers in Luxembourg are ending up in a tough situation that forces them to take irregular work paying significantly below the minimums set out for the sector. There have been cases of people working seven days a week. Let down by their countries of origin, they face deplorable housing conditions, with people living virtually on top of each other and without adequate sanitation conditions.

The case in question is particularly serious, since the workers involved were on a site run by the Luxembourg Government, namely the country's railways.

In view of the above, can the Commission state:

1. Is it aware of this situation, in particular, but also of other identical cases in the EU Member States?
2. Does it know whether steps are being taken to protect the dignity of these workers and to regularise their employment status with the institutions for which they are working?