

**Question for written answer E-010918/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Gabriel Mato (PPE) and Carlos Iturgaiz (PPE)

Subject: Policies to counter the greater risk of poverty in elderly women

The gender gap in pensions in 2012 was around 38 %, an alarming figure which can be linked to a variety of causal factors, including the inequality that women experience throughout their lives, their relatively limited access to the labour market and the fact that they are generally paid less than men.

In order to address this issue, a comprehensive equality strategy and specific measures to compensate for lower earnings are needed to enable women to face the last years of their lives with confidence and in complete security.

What action is the Commission taking to counter the high risk of poverty experienced by elderly women?

What is it doing to prevent this trend from continuing in the future?