

**Question for written answer E-012822/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Child poverty and support for families in difficulty

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs has seized on a new issue – child poverty. While it is true that child poverty in Europe is increasing significantly, this is a knock-on effect of the European Union's structural economic reforms and its social bias.

It should be remembered that the Stability and Growth Pact, which has been strengthened since 2008, has led to cuts in Member States' social welfare budgets, hitting family incomes particularly severely.

- Does the Commission intend to ease the current pressure of budgetary discipline so as to encourage Member States to promote family policies that do more for the wellbeing of minors?

It is also the case that the Commission, not content with responding to changes in society, is encouraging the disintegration of the family unit through its unconditional support for the concept of parenthood.

- How does it intend to help children without taking account of the family unit?