

**Question for written answer E-012823/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Dominique Martin (ENF) and Joëlle Mélin (ENF)**

Subject: Ageing population and loss of competitiveness

To date, only piecemeal solutions have been offered to the problem of Europe's ageing population, despite the fact that the EU continues to have one of the world's lowest birth rates. The legislative action that has been taken at EU level will do no more than delay the economic consequences of a shrinking population for a decade or two.

- Does the Commission really believe that an exclusively labour market-oriented approach coupled with measures to foster a better work-life balance and a focus on the 'silver economy' (i.e. on meeting the needs of older people) will be enough to deal with the problems we are facing?

The unprecedented levels of migration we are currently witnessing are bringing young people to Europe who can provide our society with a new source of labour.

- Although the Commission has pushed through a number of policies to help these people integrate into our economy and our society, would it not agree that their arrival en masse on the European labour market will make it still more difficult for the EU to remain competitive?