

**Question for written answer E-015124/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: European handouts and subsidiarity

The Commission wishes to promote the convergence of social standards and, in the European Semester process, is continuing to pressure Member States to embark on structural reforms, not least where social policy is concerned.

Specifically, in its programme to combat household poverty, it is calling for low incomes to be less heavily taxed and proposing that a guaranteed minimum income be established on a Europe-wide basis.

In its insistence on steering Member States' social and wage policies, which are national matters, is not the EU manifestly overstepping its powers?