

**Question for written answer E-015327/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Sotirios Zarianopoulos (NI)

Subject: Abrogation of the social security entitlements of ordinary working people

The raft of measures imposed as a precondition in the Third 'Memorandum' between the Greek government and the EU, the ECB and the IMF introduces sweeping reversals in social security arrangements.

The dramatic reduction in pensions is continuing. The State will no longer guarantee a fixed pension, but a humiliating allowance (a basic pension) of EUR 360, depending on income and property criteria. Moves are being made to enforce the automatic reduction of pensions in the light of deficits in the pension funds. The abolition of supplementary pensions and the amalgamation of such pensions with principal pensions is under consideration.

In practice, henceforth only insurance contributions paid by workers will be fixed, even though they will not know how much they will receive as a pension if they eventually manage to retire despite the high rate of unemployment, uninsured work and 'flexible' working relations.

The retirement age is being increased to 67 years, and even older, in line with life expectancy, while a penalty of 10% is being imposed for each year of retirement taken by a person before reaching the age of 67.

Such measures are included in the Commission's White Paper on pensions, based on EU guidelines for 'active ageing', and form the basis for an attack on the social security entitlements of ordinary working people.

How does the Commission view moves to abolish the social nature of social security, by reducing pensions and raising the age of retirement?