Question for written answer E-015875/2015/rev.1 to the Commission Rule 130 Dominique Martin (ENF) and Joëlle Mélin (ENF)

Subject: In-work poverty

The structural crisis which the European Union is facing has increased poverty among EU citizens in the Member States. Poverty levels have never been so high, and more and more people are affected.

We have even witnessed the emergence of a new form of poverty: in-work poverty. This refers to the situation of people who are in formal employment but are unable to secure decent living conditions and, in their 30s and 40s, have to live with their parents or in shared accommodation, or even end up on the street because they cannot make ends meet on the money they earn.

Is the Commission fully aware of the scale of this problem?

Does the Commission recognise that we live today in a society where having a job no longer means that you can survive and that, in these circumstances, the very notion of 'work' loses its value if a job does not provide enough to live on?

Given these conditions of increasing labour market instability and poverty, how can the Commission choose to aggravate the situation by not preventing the arrival of hundreds of thousands of migrants who will swell the ranks of the unemployed and jobseekers?