

**Question for written answer E-000447/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)**

Subject: Public Sector Employment (OPE) in Navarre

The Public Sector Employment (OPE) competition for recruitment to education posts in Navarre is scheduled for June 2016. In this connection, the notice of competition published by the government of Navarre has triggered a wave of controversy and protest, since 228 (71.25%) of the 320 posts will be for Basque speakers.

Regional Law 18/1986 on the Basque Language, of 15 December, institutes Basque as a joint official language in certain parts of Navarre, but Spanish remains the official language in Navarre and throughout Spanish territory and should therefore be a sufficient qualification for any Spanish citizen to have access to public sector jobs, in accordance with the principle of equal opportunities.

The percentage of posts for Basque speakers is, moreover, disproportionate and constitutes discrimination against those residents of Navarre and other Spaniards who have no knowledge of that language.

In view of the above and with regard to Article 18 TFEU on non-discrimination and citizenship of the Union, does the Commission consider that the OPE procedure followed by the government of Navarre complies with EU law, in so far as it discriminates against those citizens of Navarre who do not speak Basque and other Spanish citizens whose only language is Spanish?