Question for written answer E-000659/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Convergence and the labour market in Europe

President Juncker recently underlined again that better economic convergence between the Member States remains essential for the stability of the single currency. In practical terms, the implementation of such a policy requires Member States to embark on binding and costly reform packages, in particular to modernise their national labour markets and ensure a common basis of social rights. These measures seeking to bring about macroeconomic stabilisation take no account of the specific features of local markets, yet the microeconomic variables cover a wide range of different social realities.

The reforms already undertaken have often not had the effects intended and have made very little contribution to economic recovery.

Why does the Commission persist with pushing through so many reforms when achieving real convergence, particularly on the labour market, is impossible in the context of sluggish economic growth?