

**Question for written answer E-001714/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL)**

Subject:     Employment in Spain

The OECD recently published a report which revealed that the quality of employment in Spain is extremely low: the job market is unstable, 20% of the population are unemployed, and roughly 20% of workers are living below the poverty line and earning less than 60% of the average income, which represents a breach of the European Social Charter. More than a quarter of Spanish people are at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Spain is currently facing a crisis stemming from increasingly unequal resource distribution (as a result of the current wage and tax policies), a state of affairs which has been exacerbated by the speculation engaged in by a poorly regulated financial sector.

The situation will deteriorate further if certain measures set out in the recent Spanish Government resolution supported by the Socialist Party and the Citizens of Spain, which are in line with the Commission and Eurogroup proposals for austerity and cuts in wages, benefits and social rights, are implemented. These measures, which will make the least well-off members of society foot the bill for the financial negligence of the authorities, are entirely at odds with Article 9 TFUE.

What objective indicators does the Commission use to assess the impact of its economic policy? Do the results of its assessment provide a justification for cuts and austerity measures?