

Question for written answer E-004125/2016
to the Council
Rule 130
Siôn Simon (S&D)

Subject: Contract lengths of unpaid trainees at the Council of the European Union

As I have pointed out in a previous question on the number of traineeships in the Council and on how much trainees are compensated, many trainees are taken in the European institutions without any compensation for their work.

Current trends for young people entering the labour market are putting pressure on young people to complete multiple internships in order to achieve their personal career ambitions. However, where internships are unpaid, such valuable and required experience becomes a privilege predominately accessible only to individuals from wealthy backgrounds. The longer these contracts are, the less accessible they become to those who are less advantaged.

For this reason, can the Council provide an overview of the lengths of the contracts of its unpaid traineeships?