

**Question for written answer E-006495/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Employment policy and insecurity

There are fewer and fewer citizens who fail to see what is hidden behind the spurious comparisons made with regard to employment between the words 'protection' and 'rigidity', and 'growth' and 'flexibility'. This is just an excuse to roll out an extractive economic policy that aims to establish relative economic growth by depriving all citizens of the corresponding level of resources.

The labour reforms in Spain, the El Khomri law in France, Italy's Jobs Act and other European initiatives are designed to provide 'more flexibility' in the jobs market and to create employment, while their effect on the quality of that employment is covered up. What these reforms are doing is creating underemployment, rather than employment. Insecurity is on the increase, meaning that more and more workers' wages are falling under the poverty threshold. Europe is on a path towards a new age of slavery, based on a theory that justifies fiscal adjustments and cuts which result in more poverty and more inequality.

Does the Commission have empirical evidence (studies) as regards the impact that these employment policies have on the quality of employment, and what the effects are on inequality, regardless of relative economic growth?