

**Question for written answer E-008294/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
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Subject: Youth unemployment in Europe

In 2012, the Commission created a youth employment package, and the Youth Guarantee introduced as part of it was approved in 2013. The Youth Guarantee ensures that everyone is offered continued education, an apprenticeship, a traineeship, or a job within the first months of leaving formal education. The actions of the European Union have proven effective in many ways and youth unemployment has fallen. Nevertheless, according to Eurostat, the youth unemployment rate is still twice as high as the unemployment rate for all age groups combined. In August 2016, more than 4 million people under the age of 25 were unemployed within the EU, giving a youth unemployment rate of 18.6%.

What is the Commission's assessment of the functioning of the Youth Guarantee and other strategies, and the adequacy of their funding?

Given that the youth unemployment rate varies between the EU Member States and that it still stands at 40% in some countries, is the Commission planning to update its youth unemployment strategies in the near future?

How could the Commission even out the unemployment situation in the EU and make use of measures that have proven effective in the countries with the highest employment rates?