

**Question for written answer E-009682/2016**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Notis Marias (ECR)**

Subject: An end to the austerity caused by the fiscal adjustment programmes ('Memoranda') and the introduction of measures to reduce long-term unemployment

Greece has one of the highest rates of unemployment in Europe. According to a recent survey by ELSTAT and Institute of Labour of the Greek General Confederation of Labour (INE-GSEE), most of the unemployed - 73.38% - are long-term unemployed. Nine out of ten unemployed people lead a marginal existence, since they receive neither unemployment benefits nor employment subsidies. Only 10% of the unemployed receive unemployment benefits from the Organisation for the Employment of Labour (OAED), while only 1.5% of all registered long-term unemployed receive the added bonus of EUR 700 per month.

The brutal fiscal adjustment programmes, austerity and the 'Memorandum' policies mean that 350 000 families do not have a single member in employment and 850 000 Greeks spend more than a year out of work. At the same time, more than 300 000 highly skilled young people have left Greece in the last six years to find work abroad.

In view of the above and bearing in mind that that actual unemployment deprives the social security system over EUR 7 billion, will the Commission, as part of the Troika, state:

1. What measures will it take to reduce the number of long-term unemployed?
2. Will it continue to insist on an austerity policy which is relentlessly driving up unemployment in Greece?