

**Question for written answer E-002252/2017  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Franz Obermayr (ENF)**

Subject: Gender wage gap

According to the Commission website<sup>1</sup> there still exists a marked wage gap between men and women in the EU. The magazine 'Focus' published an article<sup>2</sup> in which it critically scrutinised the evaluation of the statistical data which resulted in a gender wage gap. A major point of criticism is that different groups of professions with vastly different wages, but without comparable ratios of men and women, were compared. For example: if a high proportion of women in professions with a low average wage are compared with a high proportion of men in professions with a high average wage, that will inevitably lead to a wage difference, even though it is not looking at the same work.

1. What is the Commission's view of this thesis?
2. On what data are the Commission's statistics based?
3. What statistical methods were used by the Commission to evaluate the data?

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/gender-pay-gap/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/gender-pay-gap/index_en.htm)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.focus.de/finanzen/news/lohn-maerchen-warum-maenner-gar-nicht-mehr-verdienen-als-frauen\\_id\\_4163527.html](http://www.focus.de/finanzen/news/lohn-maerchen-warum-maenner-gar-nicht-mehr-verdienen-als-frauen_id_4163527.html)