Question for written answer E-003510/2017 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Failure of assessments ahead of proposals for directives to take account of their impact

on employment

Assessments of the economic, social and environmental impact of every new European directive of significant scale must be carried out. The quality of such assessments is checked by the Regulatory Scrutiny Board (RSB).

The impact on employment is a key aspect of any social impact analysis, yet it is often ignored in the impact assessments that are submitted to the European Parliament. To take two examples, the directives on 'rail safety' and on 'preventive restructuring frameworks, second chance and measures to increase the efficiency of restructuring, insolvency and discharge procedures' were put forward by the Commission despite there having been no real assessment of their impact on employment. Even more serious was the fact that in the second case the board had pointed out to the author the inadequacy of the employment impact assessment, yet still gave the proposal the green light.

What proposals for directives, if any, were nevertheless blocked by the Regulatory Scrutiny Board in 2016?

What action does the Commission plan to take in order to ensure that employment, which citizens consider to be a top priority, is finally taken into account in impact assessments?

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