

**Question for written answer E-004757/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Nikos Androulakis (S&D)

Subject: Addressing the demographic problem

The demographic problem in Greece has assumed explosive proportions and directly affects the restoration of economic stability in the country due in part to its effect on the sustainability of the insurance system. According to Eurostat estimates released on 11 July, the Greek population decreased in 2016 by 2.6%, as deaths exceeded births.

Meanwhile, the average age of the Greek population is increasing and is now estimated at 44 years of age, while the working population is continually shrinking. If one takes into account the great exodus of young people from Greece as a result of the economic crisis, the problem becomes even more acute and a response to the demographic crisis is essential.

In view of the above:

What measures could the European Commission take to help Member States in general and Greece in particular address the demographic crisis?

Could the EC coordinate an exchange of best practices among Member States?

Has it calculated the economic impact of the demographic crisis on the economic development of Greece, as well as on the sustainability of the retirement pension system?