

**Question for written answer E-005270/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Dominique Martin (ENF)**

Subject: Ineffectiveness of the Youth Employment Initiative

In April 2017, the EU Court of Auditors published a report assessing the impact of the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) on efforts to combat youth unemployment in Europe.

The YEI's budget for 2014-2020 is EUR 6.4 billion. Its aim is to help young people, particularly those not in education, employment or training ('NEET') and long-term unemployed young people, to find jobs.

However, the Court of Auditors found that the YEI had made only a very limited contribution to the attainment of this aim, and that it had failed to yield significant results.

In France, youth unemployment has not declined since this instrument was first deployed. Worse still, in 2016, it was actually higher (24.6%) than in 2014 (24.2%).

1. Does the Commission accept that the YEI is therefore a failure and ought to be discontinued?
2. Does not the Commission therefore agree that there is no justification for its proposal to increase the budget for the YEI by one billion euros for the period 2017-2020?