

**Question for written answer E-006695/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE) and Jozo Radoš (ALDE)**

Subject: North Korean labourers

A recent report by the Leiden Asia Centre of Leiden University reveals some shocking truths about the use of North Korean forced labour in the EU, with Poland the most serious case. The Polish Government issued 2 783 work permits to North Koreans between 2008 and 2015. The labourers were put to use primarily in the private sector, mainly in the construction and ship building industries.

Furthermore, the report outlines how the living and working conditions of North Korean labourers in Poland are in clear violation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Labourers' rights to freedom and dignity are not being upheld. Such practice cannot and should not be tolerated by the European Union or its Member States.

What steps is the Commission taking to put an end to such inhumane labour practices in the EU?

What action has been taken to identify and reprimand companies and governments which are hiring North Korean labourers?