

**Question for written answer E-007350/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Dominique Martin (ENF)**

Subject: The 'working poor' and actions by the Commission

European statistics show that 10% of workers in Europe are 'working poor', i.e. people who are below the poverty line although they are in employment.

Preventing poverty while in employment does not form part of the Commission's 'Europe 2020 Strategy'. This focuses on the unemployed, considering them particularly likely to fall below the poverty line, but does not take into account the poorest workers.

Furthermore, according to studies by the EU Agency Eurofound, there is a direct link between austerity measures and the growth of precarious forms of employment and the number of Europeans who are at a high risk of poverty.

- What action has the Commission taken to combat the phenomenon of the 'working poor'?
- Does the Commission not think that Brussels' obsession with establishing an EU internal market is equally responsible for the difficult situation of the 'working poor', a situation which is the result of unfair competition and social dumping?
- Does the Commission agree that the austerity policies, which it has promoted, have increased the risk of poverty among workers?