

**Question for written answer E-007351/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Dominique Martin (ENF)

Subject: Unpaid traineeships at the Commission

The Commission has recently proposed a series of measures aimed at combating youth unemployment, which is still very high in many Member States. It is promoting the idea of giving young people the opportunity to gain their first work experience in the form of a traineeship.

Nevertheless, widespread injustices have been reported in the field of traineeships, according to the results of research presented to Parliament's Employment and Social Affairs Committee in September 2017. Beyond the difficulty of finding a traineeship without having 'contacts', the existence of traineeships that offer little or no remuneration risks creating a system of 'modern slavery', where employees are replaced by trainees who earn nothing or next to nothing. The fact of there being such 'poor workers' is cause for concern.

- Against this backdrop, can the Commission confirm that all its traineeships are paid?
- What percentage of former trainees were recruited by the Commission and EU agencies in 2016?
- What is the average age of trainees working at the Commission and the EU agencies?