

**Question for written answer E-001885/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Insulting pensions in Spain

Pensioners in Spain are rebelling against the government. The fall in pensions and loss of purchasing power which have followed the introduction as part of the 2013 reform of new revision criteria (pensions are no longer linked to the consumer price index, 2012) are pushing many pensioners towards severe poverty. This group, along with other sections of society like the working poor, are only just scraping by. In January 2019, the 'sustainability factor' will come into force, a measure that could lead to a drop of up to 40% in purchasing power over the next few decades. This is all part of what seems to be a concerted attempt to promote private pension plans, which, incidentally, have yielded disappointing results in Spain.

In February 2018, a complaint was brought before the European Court of Human Rights alleging a breach by the Spanish State of International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention No 102, the European Convention on Human Rights, the European Code of Social Security and the European Social Charter.

1. Does the Commission think that the Spanish Government's policy is consistent not only with the instruments referred to above, but also with the 15th principle set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights?
2. Has it made, or will it make, recommendations to the Spanish Government on this matter?