

**Question for written answer E-002065/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Negative distortion of the labour market for the over 30s

According to the latest data from ISTAT (the Italian National Institute of Statistics), in 2017 the number of unemployed people in Italy between the ages of 25 and 49 years increased by 234 000 units, of whom 204 000 were over the age of 35. This phenomenon is largely due to the incentives to recruit under-30s offered by the EU and by national and regional governments, which, unfortunately, have not had only a positive impact on the employment market.

Indeed, those incentives are increasingly encouraging companies to hire young people, because of the tax relief they receive, but the companies are unable to renew the contracts when there are no longer any incentives.

Only in Italy, over 30s currently cost, in terms of pay and contributions, 28 % more than their younger colleagues: instead of promoting employment in the long term, this is often causing a real generational conflict, pushing wages downwards for both age groups.

What active policies does the Commission intend to propose to boost employment also for the over 30s, to defuse the ongoing generational confrontation and raise awareness among Member States of the need for policies which are not only targeted at temporary tax relief for the recruitment of young people?

How does the Commission intend to check whether this situation is not in breach of Directive 2000/78/EC, and in particular of Article 6 – 'Justification of differences of treatment on grounds of age' – and Article 7(1) thereof?