

**Question for written answer E-002174/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Net earnings are lower in rural areas, but the Auvergne doesn't interest Brussels

In France, average net earnings vary by up to 100% depending on whether you work in Saint-Flour, in Cantal, or in the Paris region (EUR 10.4 compared to EUR 19.5 per hour in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelynes)¹.

This is true for all types of job:

- executives (EUR 20 compared to EUR 29)
- white-collar workers (EUR 9 compared to EUR 12)
- manual workers (EUR 10 compared to EUR 13)

The lowest wages in France are found not in areas taking in immigrants, but in some rural communities.

Why is it that, in its reports, the Commission never mentions this kind of poverty or rural inequality, but systematically refers to the integration of migrants? So, for example, in the 55 pages of the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) for 2018, the word 'migrants' appears eight times, while rural areas aren't mentioned at all².

¹ <http://www.strategie.gouv.fr/publications/dou-viennent-ecarts-de-salaire-entre-territoires>

² Annual work programme for grants and procurement for the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) for 2018.
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?advSearchKey=EaSIannualworkprogramme&mode=advancedSubmit&cauld=22&policyArea=0&policyAreaSub=0&country=0&year=0&langId=en>