

**Question for written answer E-001811/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Dennis de Jong (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Labour migration and depopulation

1. Does the Commission endorse the analysis in the article 'Roemenië baalt van uittocht werknemers naar EU-landen' (FD, 6 April 2019)¹ and in the Nieuwsuur broadcast: 'Letland loopt leeg: jongeren vertrekken massaal naar West-Europa' (Nieuwsuur, 14 February 2019)² concerning the impact of mass labour migration [on Romania and Latvia]?
2. Does the Commission realise that the free movement of workers, which is lucrative for businesses, leads to depopulation in Member States where wages are lower than in other Member States and that this causes serious problems with huge social consequences (depopulation, brain drain)? Does the Commission have any statistics on changes in the numbers of people from central and eastern Europe working elsewhere in Europe over the past ten years?
3. Does the Commission agree that a work permit system at Member State level could provide a solution to the impact of labour migration?

¹ <https://fd.nl/economie-politiek/1296279/roemenie-baalt-van-uittocht-werknemers-naar-andere-eu-lidstaten>

² <https://nos.nl/nieuwsuur/video/2271993-reportage-en-gesprek-de-keerzijde-van-open-grenzen-letland-loopt-leeg.html>