

**Question for written answer P-007809/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Filiz Hyusmenova (ALDE)

Subject: Countering the stigmatisation of Bulgarian workers

Freedom of movement is a right guaranteed to all European citizens, regardless of the existence of border controls that may be put in place by some Member States for EU citizens entering their territory. As of 1 January 2014, transitional arrangements for the free movement of workers from Bulgaria and Romania have been abolished. Since then, people in public office in several Member States have continued, in numerous statements, to stigmatise Bulgarian and Romanian workers, using for political ends the issue of the basic right to freedom of movement and asserting – without any statistics to back the claim – that national social security systems could be at risk, although the nature of such risk has not been established.

Freedom of movement for workers is, however, a positive and exemplary phenomenon in socio-economic terms, at both EU and Member State level, inasmuch as it is a major advance towards European integration, economic development and social cohesion and it makes the Union economically stronger.

1. How does the Commission intend to counter the statements about Bulgarian and Romanian workers, which are stigmatising them and fostering discrimination against them in several Member States?
2. Does the Commission also intend to do more to develop freedom of movement in the Union, thus helping all the national economies to benefit from the socio-economic boost it brings?