

**Question for written answer P-001463/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Dominique Martin (ENF)

Subject: Combating social dumping

The Commission now claims to be fighting against social dumping. It should be recalled that this phenomenon is a direct result of Directive 96/71/EC on the posting of workers, which means that any posted worker can be paid the wages paid in the host country and is subject to the labour law applicable in that country; his or her social and employer's contributions are, however, settled in his or her country of origin. Acting as rational economic players, companies tend to take advantage of the difference in labour costs between Member States to increase social dumping.

These abuses have been known for many years and many solutions have been proposed to try to tackle them, but without success.

The Commission now seems to want to address the problem by suggesting a whole medley of new solutions, such as the creation of a European labour inspection agency and revising the relevant directives.

1. Is the Commission aware that each Member State has national labour inspection services which are competent and recruited on the basis of the standards applicable in each country?
2. Would it not be preferable if the Commission allowed Member States to fight against social dumping on their national territory, in particular by encouraging and supporting compliance with the rules already in force?