

**Question for written answer P-001833/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jan Huitema (ALDE)

Subject: Tackling bogus self-employment in the Netherlands

In its most recent country-specific recommendation, the Commission recommends that the Netherlands tackle bogus self-employment¹. The Netherlands Government intends to abolish the possibility of employing the services of self-employed people at low rates, stipulating that workers in this situation will be regarded as having employment contracts (low-rate employment contracts – ‘ALT’). According to the Netherlands Government Minister Wouter Koolmees, informal discussions on this subject were held with officials at the Commission last autumn². On the advice of the Commission, the adoption of legislation to implement the plan has been delayed until 2021³. At the same time, the Commission notes that no progress has yet been made on the issue of bogus self-employment in the Netherlands.

1. What discussions (including informal ones) have taken place between the Netherlands Government and the Commission on the proposed ALT measure?
2. On the basis of what assessment does the Commission assert that the proposed ALT measure might infringe European legislation?
3. How was the Commission asked for assistance in drafting the ALT measure, for example in order to examine, review and/or amend the proposal for support from the Commission?

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/file_import/2018-european-semester-country-specific-recommendation-commission-recommendation-netherlands-nl.pdf

² Letter to the Netherlands Parliament concerning progress with the drafting of measures concerning self-employment, 26 November 2018

³ Het Financieel Dagblad, ‘Nieuwe zzp-wet pas in 2021’, 27 November 2018