

**Draft Question for oral answer O-000999/20132013
to the Commission**

Rule 115

Pervenche Berès

on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Subject: Social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU)

Since the onset of the crisis, the Eurozone experienced a rapid polarization of unemployment. Since 2011, the role of social security expenditure as an automatic stabiliser has considerably weakened. Although major steps have been taken to reinforce the EU's economic governance, Europe has paid a very high economic and social price. Unemployment in the EU has reached an alarming level of 26.6 million people, 23% of active young people are unemployed and poverty and social exclusion continue to rise.

1. Does the Commission consider the indicators proposed as part of the scoreboard to provide a comprehensive coverage allowing proper assessment of the employment and social situation in Member States?
2. Why has the Commission set the age limit of 25 years for young people to be included in the indicator used for the calculation of youth unemployment in the light of the Youth Guarantee which provides the limit of 30 years on a voluntary basis?
3. How does the Commission concretely envisage translating the initiatives proposed in its Communication on the social dimension of EMU into the 2014 Annual Growth Survey (AGS)?
4. On what basis does the Commission aim to assess whether particular employment and social indicators have reached alarming levels in the context of a lack of a real EU social protection floor?
5. Does the Commission agree that the analytical tool of a scoreboard with employment and social indicators must be complemented with a system triggering preventative and corrective actions?
6. To what extent does the Commission acknowledge that there is a specificity inside the Eurozone countries regarding the social challenges?
7. How does the communication feed into the agenda regarding the completion of a genuine Economic and Monetary Union?

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