

**Question for written answer E-004003/2011
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Trainees at the European Commission

Traineeships can provide valuable experience for young people and many studies have shown that a good traineeship helps young people in education to subsequently find a job. In its 2010 'Youth on the Move' flagship initiative, the Commission states that it intends to propose 'a quality framework for traineeships'. In this respect:

1. When does the Commission intend to submit its proposal on a quality framework for traineeships? What is the timescale for this proposal and when can we expect it to be implemented?
2. The Commission offers 5-month traineeships to graduates, postgraduate students and postgraduates (cf. the information on the Traineeships Office webpage). How many trainees are taken on each year by the Commission under this arrangement?
3. Does the Commission take on trainees who are not part of the aforementioned official traineeship scheme? If so, can the Commission say:
 - how many trainee posts of this type are offered each year?
 - what types of traineeships do these posts cover at the Commission?
 - what sort of allowances do such trainees receive, e.g. accommodation, transport, food, daily allowances, etc.
 - how long do such traineeships usually last?
 - what is the typical level of education of the trainee? Does he/she tend to be a graduate, a postgraduate student or a postgraduate?

In this context, does any regulation or code of conduct already exist on hiring trainees outside of the official scheme.