

**Question for written answer E-007432/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Youth unemployment: request for information on the results achieved by the 'action teams' and the reprogramming of European funds for youth employment

During the informal European Council meeting held on 30 January 2012, the Commission set up eight 'action teams' to be sent to Member States with high rates of youth unemployment (Italy, Spain, Greece, Slovakia, Lithuania, Portugal, Latvia and Ireland) and announced that EUR 82 billion in as-yet-unspent European funds would be used to support measures designed to combat youth unemployment, boost growth and support SMEs. Between February and May 2012, Commission experts went to the eight Member States in question for consultations. On 23 May 2012 Commission President Barroso presented the first results achieved by the 'action teams', stating that EUR 7.3 billion in funds had already been earmarked for accelerated implementation or reassigned.

Given that the available data are unclear because they are incomplete and not sufficiently detailed, and that the Commission and Parliament on several occasions stressed the need for the active and concrete involvement of young people in decision-making, can the Commission say:

1. whether, in addition to the document presented by President Barroso on 23 May 2012, more accurate and detailed documents and data are available on funded and pending projects?
2. whether an analysis of good practices has been carried out, and a strategy developed for long-term action to boost youth employment?
3. whether and when youth organisations were involved – and how they were consulted – as provided for in the Commission communication entitled 'Youth Opportunities Initiative' and in Parliament's resolution of 24 May 2012 on the Youth Opportunities Initiative?
4. what were the outcomes of, and the decisions made during, the consultations with the other seven countries with an unemployment rate above the EU average (Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Sweden)?