

**Question for written answer E-004484/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Agnès Le Brun (PPE)

Subject: Social dumping in the agri-food sector

For several years now German companies have relied heavily on posted workers, in particular in the agri-food and animal slaughter industries. Such arrangements are permitted under EU law, but they allow these companies to compete at a level which is unsustainable for their rivals in neighbouring countries, given that they spend three times less on wages.

1. Does the Commission believe that these practices still comply with EU law? Does it intend to take any steps to put a stop to any practices which are illegal?
2. If these practices are deemed legal, does the Commission not believe that the European legislation is ill-adapted and creates undue distortions of competition? If so, does it intend to amend this legislation?