

**Question for written answer E-010165/2013  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Mojca Kleva Kekuš (S&D)**

**Subject:** Commission support for employee takeovers of companies in crisis

In its resolution on the contribution of cooperatives to overcoming the crisis, adopted on 2 July 2013, Parliament pointed out that many cooperatives had proved themselves to be even more resilient in times of crisis than many conventional enterprises. And the Commission, in its communication on the promotion of cooperative societies in Europe (COM(2004)0018), recognised that cooperatives and other social enterprises have an important role to play in the European economy.

In recent years, several hundred industrial and service cooperative enterprises have been established as a result of the restructuring of businesses in crisis or without successors, thereby saving and re-developing local economic activities and jobs.

In Slovenia, as in many other Member States, it is difficult to transfer businesses in crisis to their employees because of legislative obstacles and a lack of, or difficulty in obtaining, funding for employee buyouts.

In view of the above, I would like to ask the Commission:

1. Will the Commission include financial instruments to promote worker buyouts in the 2014-2020 multiannual financial framework?
2. Are there plans to include programmes in the 2014-2020 multiannual financial framework to promote the establishment of cooperatives, including financial cooperatives, which could provide appropriate financial support for worker buyouts of companies in crisis?
3. Is the Commission planning to amend the legislative framework for the harmonisation of employee takeovers in the Member States in order to eliminate administrative barriers to employees buying out companies in crisis?