

**Question for written answer E-010829/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Liam Aylward (ALDE)**

Subject: To increase the upper age limit of the Youth Guarantee Scheme from 25 to 30 years of age

European youth have been affected the most by the economic crisis. According to figures for July 2013 there were 5.56 million young people under the age of 25 without a job in the EU. The unemployment rate is 23.4% amongst young people.

While it is great that young people under 25 years who are unemployed are to be supported under the Youth Guarantee Scheme, young people aged between 25 and 30 years have the same problems. There are 6.5 million people in that age group who do not have a job or are not on an education or training course.

Often young people have left third level education by the time they reach 24 years of age therefore there is a risk that the potential of young graduates would be wasted unless employment opportunities are made available to them. It is also possible that long-term employment opportunities may be compromised if they do not succeed in finding a place in the workforce fast enough.

To that end, what measures are in place, or does the Commission intend to put in place, to come to the assistance of young people aged between 25 and 30 years? What measures will be put in place to ensure that this group of people will not be pushed to the edge of society?

Since the Youth Guarantee Scheme is a very important programme, what would the Commission's opinion be of raising the upper age limit of the scheme to 30 years?

Could the Commission give more information about what is being done to tackle this kind of marginalisation? Could the Commission give information and data also on the possibility of raising the upper age limit for the Youth Guarantee Scheme from 25 years to 30 years?