

**Question for written answer E-008552/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Georgios Katrougkalos (GUE/NGL) and Kostadinka Kuneva (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Plans for a radical overhaul of the basic trade union law

According to press reports, in order to complete the ongoing evaluation of obligations under the Memoranda, the Troika is pressing the Greek government to overhaul basic trade union law No 1264/1982 'For democratisation of the trade union movement and the consolidation of the trade union freedoms of workers'. According to the same sources, the reforms that are being promoted will bring about fundamental changes particularly in respect of the exercise of the right to strike by making the decision-taking process for strikes harder for workers, while guaranteeing the right of the employer to impose lock-outs, something which has so far been expressly prohibited by Article 22, paragraph 2, of the same law. Overall, the legislative changes that are being promoted are expected, if adopted, to strike at the very heart of the right to strike by essentially prohibiting the exercise of this right and thereby finally destroying the balanced agreement negotiated between workers and employers on this matter which has hitherto protected this right.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. Does it consider that such arrangements are consistent with the provisions of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU which guarantee the right to strike and other trade union rights?
2. Is its intervention, as a member of the Troika, in imposing such arrangements compatible with EU law?
3. Does it agree with Commissioner Katainen that the fulfilment of the obligations imposed on Greece by the Memoranda is incompatible with EU law?