

**Question for written answer E-010695/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Soraya Post (S&D), Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE), Kostas Chrysogonos (GUE/NGL), Ernest Urtasun (Verts/ALE), Jordi Sebastià (Verts/ALE), José Blanco López (S&D), Marc Tarabella (S&D), Benedek Jávor (Verts/ALE), Iliana Iotova (S&D), Christine Revault D'Allonnes Bonnefoy (S&D), Flavio Zanonato (S&D), Marju Lauristin (S&D), Nessa Childers (S&D), Alessia Maria Mosca (S&D), Malin Björk (GUE/NGL), Ivo Vajgl (ALDE), Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (ALDE), Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz (ALDE), Tanja Fajon (S&D), Jutta Steinruck (S&D), Fredrick Federley (ALDE), Brando Benifei (S&D), Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL), Bodil Valero (Verts/ALE), Ana Gomes (S&D), Elena Gentile (S&D) and Karima Delli (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Free movement and Roma

According to the 2015 Work Programme, the Commission plans to put forward an initiative on labour mobility with the aim of preventing abuse. While it is important to ensure labour mobility on fair terms, it is essential to ensure that this proposal is not aligned with the unfounded discussion in certain Member States that aims to restrict the right to free movement. In such discussions Roma who make use of this right and travel to other Member States in order to find ways to provide for themselves are often used as scapegoats. This is a clearly racist rhetoric founded on the assumption that Roma are not entitled to the same rights as other EU citizens.

The free movement of persons is one of the fundamental principles of the EU and belongs to all EU citizens. What is the Commission planning to do to defend free movement for everyone, irrespective of ethnic background?

It should be the role of the Commission to counter populism with fact-based arguments and to react against racism and xenophobia in the political debate. What is the Commission planning to do to prevent racist tendencies in the political debate in the EU?