

**Question for written answer E-003417/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Igor Šoltes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Measures to curb youth unemployment

In several Member States youth unemployment has been at an extremely high level for a number of years. In mid-2016, over 4.2 million people under 25 in the EU were unemployed.

In a recent report, the European Court of Auditors found that the EU Youth Guarantee, which aims to help young people without jobs, training or education, had made limited progress and that its results fell short of initial expectations. Under the scheme, Member States should ensure that all young people receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship within four months of leaving school or becoming unemployed. In addition, the European Council has established the Youth Employment Initiative to increase support for those regions and individuals struggling the most, with a budget of EUR 6.4 billion. The Commission itself acknowledged in its recent White Paper on the Future of Europe that there is a mismatch between expectations and the EU's capacity to meet them.

1. How does the Commission intend to ensure that programmes designed to help young people will not create expectations that cannot be met?
2. What measures does it intend to take to ensure that the funds invested achieve their purpose, i.e. that they prevent young people suffering long periods of unemployment, which adversely affect their future employability, increase the risk of poverty and social inclusion and have a negative impact on the role of young people in society?