

**Question for written answer E-004601/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Jordi Cañas (Renew)

Subject: Non-compliance with the Stability and Growth Pact in recruitment procedures and the abuse of temporary contracts in the public sector

The Council has urged Spain to support the transition towards permanent contracts, as outlined in its Recommendation (2018/C/320/08).

Two measures have been adopted in the private sector: incentives for the employer, along with monitoring and converting non-standard temporary contracts into permanent ones.

In the public sector, where according to the EPA (Encuesta de Población Activa - Economically Active Population Survey) 28% of employees are hired on temporary contracts, only the former measure was introduced, following budgetary authorisation to increase the number of available positions. This constituted a legal instrument to reduce standard temporary contracts.

However, this measure included posts filled with irregular temporary contracts exceeding the legal maximum period of three years, resulting in hundreds of thousands of employees over the age of 45, most of them women, being dismissed, without any steps being taken against the public sector authority that hired them for fraud and abuse of temporary employment contract terms.

Will the Commission monitor the impact of the dismissal of this age-group - based on the data and forecasts set out in the Spanish National Reform Programme - on compliance with the Council recommendation on deficit, debt and other priority policy goals of the Union? If necessary, will the Commission call on the Council to issue a new recommendation to Spain so that it adopts measures to combat fraud and abuse of temporary contracts in the public sector?