

**Question for written answer E-001544/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Commission plans regarding an EU unemployment benefit scheme

In her political guidelines, presented to the European Parliament when taking office, the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, promised 'a European unemployment benefit scheme'¹. Given that such schemes have hitherto been a national concern with good reason, many of us were worried by this promise.

However, temporary emergency measures are different from permanent schemes. On 2 April 2020, the European Commission proposed the Temporary Support Instrument to mitigate Unemployment Risks in an Emergency (SURE), which has since entered into force and started disbursing assistance.

Unfortunately, a majority within the European Parliament is still calling for the establishment of a more permanent system (see, for example, paragraph 10 of the EP report on A strong social Europe for Just Transition, 2020/2084 (INI), adopted on 17 December 2020²).

In the light of the foregoing:

Does the European Commission consider that Ursula von der Leyen's promise to present 'a European unemployment benefit scheme' has been met with the launch of the SURE scheme, or does the Commission intend to put forward a new permanent European unemployment benefit scheme?

¹ See page 10: political-guidelines-next-commission_en_0.pdf (europa.eu)

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2020-0371_EN.html