

ORAL QUESTION WITH DEBATE O-0021/09
pursuant to Rule 108 of the Rules of Procedure
by Jan Andersson, on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
to the Commission

Subject: Implementation of the guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States
2008-2010

The present economic crisis is bringing unprecedented challenges to European labour markets and threats to social cohesion. What are the Commission's plans to improve policy coordination to support the Member States in implementing the structural reforms and in ensuring that short-term measures contribute to achieving the long-term objectives?

How can the Community and the Member States, according to their respective competences, best limit the negative social impact of the crisis? How does the Commission intend to promote adequate social protection and reinforce the fight against poverty in times when millions of European workers have lost their jobs or are likely to do so in the very near future?

What policy measures does the Commission intend to promote in order to ensure that workers' employability is enhanced and that individuals, in particular the most vulnerable groups, have the skills required by European businesses on the road to recovery?

How does the Commission intend to promote confidence and ownership and improve the participation of all actors concerned in the implementation of immediate actions as well as of the structural reform agenda?

Tabled: 13.02.2009
Forwarded: 17.02.2009
Deadline for reply: 24.02.2009