

**Question for written answer P-001292/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Anna Hedh (S&D)

Subject: Freedom of movement for EU citizens

Freedom of movement within the EU has created many opportunities, but also new challenges, a state of affairs which has given rise to intensive debate in my home country, Sweden. In the wake of the economic crisis, many people in Europe have been compelled to leave their home countries in order to support themselves by begging. A majority of homeless EU migrants are Roma, and they often encounter discrimination and live in poverty.

When it is easy for people to move across borders, policies must keep pace with developments. EU citizens certainly have the right to reside in other Member States, but it does not follow that they have the right to draw benefits from the national welfare system. Even though social policy is primarily a national matter, the EU should assume a leading role in bringing about effective use of the resources which the EU makes available. The EU should also take action if Member States breach the fundamental principles of the Union and do not take the initiative to improve life for all their citizens.

How will the Commission bring about more effective coordination of measures to bring about social inclusion of Roma people, and how can the EU ensure that all Member States make use of the EU support which is available? What will the EU do to establish better monitoring and leverage systems to ensure that Member States respect citizens' rights and freedoms?