

**Question for written answer P-013536/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Siegfried Mureşan (PPE)

Subject: Eligibility for individual fellowships under Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

The Marie Curie actions have been a tremendous success over the years and continue to be a great instrument for European researchers.

One of the most important Marie Curie actions is the Individual Fellowship scheme. It contains in particular a career reintegration scheme (Career Restart Panel) that could be very important for scientists taking parental leave or who have interrupted research activity for other reasons.

According to the eligibility rules of the Career Restart Panel, scientists must not have been active in research for at least 12 months prior to the deadline for submission of proposals. This reduces the scope of the scheme, since, for example, a scientist would need to perform at least some preparatory research work before submitting his application. This criterion would prevent a scientist that worked one day in research over the past 12 month to be eligible.

In order to better serve the needs of the scientific community as well as enhancing the output of the program, this eligibility criterion must be made more flexible, including for current applications.

Has the Commission performed an analysis of the negative impact of this eligibility criterion on the program?

Is the Commission considering revising the above-mentioned eligibility criterion?