

**Priority question for written answer P-000056/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Abolition of guaranteed minimum income in Italy

Italy is the only country in Europe to have seen real wages fall – by 2.9 % – between 1990 and 2020 rather than increase.

Europe's unemployment rate stands at 6 % compared to Italy's higher rate of 7.8 % (with youth unemployment reaching 23.9 %).

There is a statutory minimum wage in 21 European countries but not in Italy.

Four million workers in the country earn less than EUR 1 000 per month; of those people, around 200 000 receive the guaranteed minimum income to supplement wages below the poverty line and some 660 000 are difficult to quickly place in employment (53 000 are over 60 and 135 000 are between 50 and 59 years old).

The effects of the pandemic, energy crisis and economic inflation caused by the ongoing conflict should also be considered.

In the light of the above, can the Commission say whether, in the absence of other social protection measures or legislation on the statutory minimum wage, the abolition of the guaranteed minimum income in Italy constitutes a violation of the fundamental rights laid down in the 1961 European Social Charter and the 1989 Community Charter of the Fundamental Social Rights of Workers, as referred to, for example, in Article 151 TFEU?

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