

**Question for written answer E-015127/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: The risks of EU handouts

The number of households at risk of poverty in the European Union is constantly rising, one reason for which is the anti-social measures imposed by the EU institutions in the wake of the 2007 crisis. To make up for Member States' shortcomings in the social policy field, the Commission is proposing the introduction from now on of specific actions at EU level, particularly for the most deprived households.

Member States are being encouraged in particular to combat energy poverty by drawing more readily on Structural Funds such as the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived or even the ESI Funds.

Assuming that the people targeted really do benefit from this financial aid, is it not the case that these measures making handouts official reinforce worrying gulfs in society and thus are seriously damaging to society as a whole?