

**Question for written answer E-014884/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Konstantinos Papadakis (NI)

Subject: The European arrest warrant: a tool for suppressing the workers' and grassroots movement

On the day of the Greek general strike on 12 November, the SYRIZA-ANEL coalition used the European arrest warrant to arrest five students whom the Italian authorities want extradited. The five students are being prosecuted for involvement in the incidents of 1 May in Milan during a demonstration against the international exhibition 'Expo Milano 2015'. They are supposed to belong to a group of Greeks, who, on the day after the above incidents, were brought by Italian police to undergo the mandatory taking of DNA samples. The implementation and activation of the European arrest warrant in this particular case bears out the allegations made by the Greek Communist Party (KKE) when it was introduced: that such instruments form part of, and serve, a huge network of repressive mechanisms being created by the EU on a number of convenient pretexts, such as 'combating terrorism and organised crime', to strangle democratic rights and freedoms in order essentially to strike a blow at the workers' and grassroots movement.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

- How does it view the just demand that the European arrest warrant should be suspended and even abolished and that the students in question should not be surrendered to the Italian authorities?