

Question for written answer E-015524/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Tibor Szanyi (S&D)

Subject: Links between the minimum wage and the Europe 2020 Strategy

In most Member States, minimum wage systems exist, with the minimum wage being prescribed either by law or as a result of collective negotiation. The European Parliament has also expressed its opinion on the subject a number of times (1. report of 20 October 2010 on the 'role of minimum income in combating poverty and promoting an inclusive society in Europe' (2010/2039(INI)); 2. report of 15 November 2011 on 'the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion' (2011/2052(INI))).

In many respects, minimum wages differ in the various EU Member States: in some countries they are stagnating at less than 50% of median income. As a result of this, poverty is rising there. The Europe 2020 Strategy set the objective of taking 20 million people out of destitution by 2020, as this type of inequality represents a serious risk to social cohesion.

1. What steps has the Commission taken since the European Parliament adopted the above reports, with regard to their substance?
2. Does the Commission consider it necessary to review legal provisions on the subject, or what further steps is it considering taking in order to attain the objective set in the Europe 2020 Strategy?