

**Question for written answer E-014892/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Europe's ageing population

The Member States are facing a rapidly ageing population. According to recent Eurostat statistics, the proportion of older people aged 65 years of age or over has been steadily increasing and it will have increased from 18.5 % in 2015 to almost 30 % in the EU by 2080. Specifically, the proportion of older people aged 80 years of age or over will have increased from 5 % in 2014 to 12 % by 2080, which is more than double. In other words, one out of every eight persons in the Member States could be 80 years old or above by 2080. Regardless of the fact that the elderly face a higher risk of poverty or social exclusion than the overall population, the ageing of European populations presents major social and economic challenges.

In light of the above:

1. What actions is the Commission taking to tackle poverty and the social exclusion of older people, and to address major social and economic challenges that the ageing of European populations presents?
2. What concrete measures is the Commission taking to promote active ageing in the Member States?