

**Question for written answer E-001301/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: EU ‘training programmes’ and mechanisms supporting employers rather than workers

Training programmes have long been championed as a means of tackling unemployment and supporting workers. In practice, however, they are a key tool for implementing the EU’s strategy to tailor the workforce to the needs of capital profitability.

The ‘social partners’ – all kinds of unscrupulous union bosses – play a particular role in the implementation of political manipulation and worker assimilation, with substantial amounts of funding flowing their way for training and ‘labour market reintegration’ activities.

In Greece, for many years, the leadership of the General Confederation of Greek Workers (GSEE) has been involved in the management of hundreds of millions for training programmes. This is a matter of a long-standing, institutionalised transaction between trade union aristocracy, employers and the bourgeois state. Management activities are primarily carried out by the GSEE’s Labour Institute and Centre for Educational Policy Development.

What is the Commission’s position on the fact that:

1. in practice, these programmes act as a mechanism for recycling unemployment, easing public discontent and legalising layoffs and flexible working arrangements, while also strengthening the role of union bosses who move in step with employers and governments, contributing to the implementation of anti-worker policies?
2. with the support of European funds, Greek governments and GSEE bodies have set up training mechanisms that not only fail to protect workers, but also strengthen employers’ and governments’ interference in trade union structures?
3. they thereby constitute a mechanism for manipulating and assimilating workers – especially the most vulnerable, such as the unemployed – and methodically orchestrate the weakening of their fight?

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