

Socialists want to budgets of the eurozone at the service of security and social cohesion

The Socialist Group in the European Parliament (S & D) urged on 18th November the European Commission to "show more courage and ambition" when it comes to the use of the flexibility of the Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) when, next week, present the policy priorities economic in 2016. The Socialists believe that only in this way can meet the need for investment to accelerate economic recovery, respond to the latest developments related to security and defense and with its own refugee crisis. The S & D Group believes that "the Commission, when examining the budgetary position of the Member States for 2016 should be more sensitive to the urgent challenges to the security and prosperity of European citizens", reads in statement released this week. The first information made public by the Commission on the economic priorities for the next year raising concerns among socialists because they considered "not sufficient to give a credible response to urgent crises and unprecedented facing Europe".

According to Maria João Rodrigues, socialist Vice President in charge of the folders of the economy, employment and Social Affairs, "Europe cannot continue to turn a blind eye to the needs and aspirations of European citizens, the only way to make the European economy a space prosperity is by encouraging public investment and promoting domestic demand." For Mrs Rodrigues "it seems obvious that the solution lies in more and better investment in key sectors, such as energy transition, education, security and social integration also to respond to the refugee crisis. We can no longer trust recovery of the EU to seasonal factors, as in the case of low oil prices or exports when the euro is weakened, "she said.

The Socialists hope that next week, the European Commission presented a "realistic and strengthened vision for the euro area, encouraging Member States to create conditions conducive to investment," believing that "medium to long term the EU will have a significant economic and social returns, allowing even countries to reduce their debt more effectively and grow faster. For this to be possible, the flexibility of the Stability and Growth Pact should be used in its entirety, "he defended the socialist deputy.