



EUROPEAN COMMISSION Audiovisual Services

Extracts from the EC Midday press briefing by Chantal Hughes, Spokesperson of Michel Barnier, on euro area unemployment rate at 12.0% and at 10.9% in EU27

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At the EC Midday press briefing on 2 April 2013, Chantal Hughes, Spokesperson of Michel Barnier, Member of the EC in charge of Internal Market and Services, commented the latest figures of unemployment in Europe released by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union. The euro area (EA17) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 12.0% in February 2013, stable compared with January. The EU27 unemployment rate was 10.9%, up from 10.8% in the previous month. In both zones, rates have risen markedly compared with February 2012, when they were 10.9% and 10.2% respectively.



Only the original language version is authentic and it prevails in the event of its differing from the translated versions.

TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
10:00:00	Title	00:00:05
10:00:05	SOUNDBITE by Chantal Hughes, Spokesperson of Michel Barnier, Member of the EC in charge of Internal Market and Services, (in ENGLISH) saying that such unacceptably high levels of unemployment are a tragedy for Europe; they signal how serious a crisis some Eurozone countries are now in; the European Union and its Member States have to mobilize all available instruments to create jobs and to return to sustainable economic growth; young people, in particular, need more support to acquire the right skills to increase their chances of getting a job and finding vacancies that exist; this is why the Youth Guarantee agreed by European Ministers on 28 February must be put in place urgently.	00:00:35