

**Question for written answer E-000330/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

João Ferreira (GUE/NGL) and Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Strike by logistics workers at the Lidl supermarket chain in Portugal

Logistics workers at the Lidl supermarket chain in Portugal have recently been on strike, demanding a pay rise of one euro per day.

The strike was called at Lidl's logistics centres to demand a first pay rise in four years, along with the transfer to the permanent staff of all workers from temporary employment agencies doing permanent jobs.

The Union of Commercial and Service Workers of Portugal (CESP/CGTP-IN) recently announced that it had submitted a complaint about Lidl to the Labour Conditions Authority (ACT), concerning the hiring of temporary workers unlawfully to replace those on strike. Two ACT inspectors went to the warehouse at Marateca, as the managing director of the company had refused the strike picket access to the premises.

We ask the Commission:

1. Does it have any information concerning breaches of employment law and workers' rights on the part of this multinational in other EU countries?
2. If so, what steps can be taken to prevent this kind of conduct on the part of multinationals such as Lidl?
3. What steps can be taken to prevent the occurrence of situations like those described, where profitable companies do not increase the pay of their employees for years on end?