

**Question for written answer E-014635/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Situation in the Unicer company

On 8 October 2015, the largest Portuguese drinks manufacturer announced what it described as a 'readjustment' measure for the company. The practical effect will be that the Santarém factory is to close with the loss of 70 jobs, and a further 70 jobs are to be cut at various other sites, in particular the factory in Leça do Balio. Following this announcement, the company has been exerting unacceptable and illegal pressure on workers to agree to the termination of their contracts. To cite some examples of this illegal strategy: the company has granted each of the workers it has approached unpaid leave to enable them to consider their decision with their families; tools have been taken away; and the company has introduced other people to customers to replace workers still in their posts.

It might be pointed out that, in a press release of February 2015, Unicer announced that it had ended 2014 with a 24% rise in its profits (EUR 33 million).

- How much EU funding has been granted to Unicer and for what purposes?
- What commitments and guarantees were given by the company in return for EU funding, in particular as regards maintaining jobs?