

**Question for written answer E-006841/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Hugues Bayet (S&D), Maria Arena (S&D) and Marc Tarabella (S&D)

Subject: Labour rights in the EU

The shock mass redundancy of 2 200 workers at the Caterpillar production plant in Gosselies and the relocation of part of the plant's activities to the group's Grenoble site demonstrates yet again the need to harmonise labour rights at a European level to prevent future decisions of this kind from wrecking the lives of thousands of families.

We must try to stop companies from basing redundancy decisions on the degree of employee protection afforded in any given Member State. Clearly, this harmonisation should be built around the strongest protection schemes in force in the Member States.

Does the Commission intend to take initiatives of this kind?