

**Question for written answer E-006915/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Involving subcontractors in negotiations on collective redundancy

The closure of Caterpillar is a social and human catastrophe. Not only does it jeopardise some 2 200 jobs at the plant, but also more than 4 000 jobs are under threat at the firm's subcontractors.

Concerns clearly run deep across the board, but subcontractors' employees are especially worried.

The Collective Redundancies Directive requires employers to inform and consult their own workers' representatives, but no such provision is made for subcontractors.

Subcontractors risk not having access to the same redundancy rights as company employees.

Many subcontractors are both essential to Caterpillar's industrial activities and very dependent on them, which clearly intensifies the socio-economic impact of the decision taken by the company's American management.

Does the Commission intend to act quickly to modify the directive on collective redundancies so that employers are required to include subcontractors in the information and consultation procedure, and to offer severance pay to the employees of those subcontractors?