Question for written answer P-006430/2016 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Collective redundancies at Sistemi Informativi Srl, IBM Group

According to data supplied by Sistemi Informativi SrI (part of IBM Italia Group), the negative trend in the computer market over the past few years has led to a decline in production at the company to the tune of several million euro.

Limitations in Italian legislation and delays due to red tape have apparently also prevented public procurement contracts from being awarded, making the company's recent efforts to boost its competitiveness fruitless.

The failure of this relaunch strategy is apparently the reason behind the decision, announced in June 2016, to make redundant 156 out of 970 employees in the company's branches of Rome, Milan, Turin and Perugia. There had already been several instances of staff reorganisation, on an annual basis, since 2012.

Can the Commission answer the following questions:

- Is it able to establish whether the losses incurred by Sistemi Informativi also stem from a lack of innovation strategy on the part of the company?
- Does it not think that as the employment emergency in question regards precisely the innovation sector, which is key for the Europa 2020 employment targets, emergency measures should be taken by the EU institutions?
- Does it not agree that the propensity to relocate production to non-EU countries, displayed also by the IBM Group, is likely to irreparably undermine the competitiveness and economic survival of the EU?

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