



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
The Chairwoman*

ES/sg
D(2010)41851

M. Alain Lamassoure
President of the Committee on budgets
ASP 13E158

Subject: Opinion on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) for the case EGF/2010/003 ES/Galicia (COM(2010)437 final)

Dear Mr Lamassoure,

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) as well as its Working Group on the EGF examined the mobilisation of the EGF for the case EGF/2010/003 ES/Galicia and adopted the following opinion.

The EMPL committee and the Working Group on the EGF are in favour of the mobilisation of the Fund concerning this request. In this respect, the EMPL committee presents some remarks without, however, putting into question the transfer of the payments.

The deliberations of the EMPL committee are based on the following considerations:

- A) Whereas this application includes 703 redundancies in 82 enterprises operating in the NACE Revision 2 Division 14 (manufacture of wearing apparel) that occurred during the reference period of 9 months between 1 March and 30 November 2009 in accordance with Article 2b of the EGF regulation while according to Social Security data, 2.500 jobs were lost in the textiles and clothing industry in Galicia during the first months of 2009.
- B) Whereas it seems astonishing that the Spanish authorities state that there is currently no specific programme for dismissed workers in the textile industry while arguing at the same time that the liberalisation of trade in textiles and clothing led to radical changes in the structure of world trade resulting in the

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general trend of delocalising production to lower cost countries outside the EU, such as Tunisia, China, Morocco and various Asian countries.

- C) Whereas, however, the redundancies in question are the result of the financial and economic crisis causing a much higher number of bankruptcies in the textiles industry compared to 2007 with ensuing job losses.
- D) Whereas, the crisis had a considerable impact on the job market of Galicia where 32.700 jobs were lost between 2007 and 2009, of which 4.414 in the textiles industry.
- E) Whereas the application does not specify the level of education of the dismissed workers.
- F) Whereas more than 86% of the redundant workers in question are women and whereas workers younger than 25 are not concerned by the dismissals.
- G) Whereas the application does not specify if workers of other EU Member States are concerned.

Therefore, the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to integrate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution concerning the Spanish application:

1. Agrees with the Commission that the conditions for a financial contribution under the EGF regulation are met.
2. Welcomes the promotion of geographical mobility by contributing to its costs.
3. Expresses its interest for the measure "support for better work-life-balance" and would like to hear more about the way in which a monthly financial support of 400 Euros can improve the work-life-balance.
4. Regrets that about half of the training and retraining measures will take place with the view to reintegrate workers in employment in the textile and clothing sector and that the only alternative offered for skills-up-grading concerns the IT sector.
5. Welcomes that the measures promoting entrepreneurship include also monitoring and mentoring and asks the Commission to provide an evaluation of this kind of measures in its annual report.
6. Welcomes the new paragraph regarding the compliance of the measures and their implementation with Article 7 of the EGF regulation that ensures equal treatment between women and men and non-discrimination;

7. Welcomes the Commission proposal for sources of payment appropriations other than unused funds of the ESF in accordance with frequent requests of the European Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Pervenche Berès