

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2023/08
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to the Commission

Subject: Liability of contractors

At present, Greek workers employed by a German subcontractor in the French town of Saint-Nazaire are working without having been paid, yet another case of this kind. Court of Justice case law has reaffirmed the social rights of posted workers in the EU, but how effective are these rights if the EU does not have the necessary legislation to address subcontractors' shortcomings?

These are no longer isolated cases. Throughout the European Union, contractors are increasingly making use of chains of subcontractors from other EU Member States and the instances of non-payment of posted workers are multiplying. It is essential to come up with a set of ad hoc legal tools as soon as possible to ensure that contractors (who benefit from the free movement of workers in the Union and competition between Union service providers) are declared liable in the event of subcontractors' failings.

When will the Commission take the necessary action?