

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2839/08
by Marco Rizzo (GUE/NGL)
to the Commission

Subject: CIR redundancies

On 29 April 2008 the De Benedetti group holding company CIR, owned by SOGEFI Filtration S.p.A, sent 230 collective redundancy notices to all the workers at the plant in Via Ulisse Barbieri in Mantua. It justified this extremely serious move by stating that the company had decided to relocate production operations abroad, owing to the high costs on the Italian market. In January, the owners and workers' representatives had agreed a restructuring plan under which 10 people (five blue-collar and five white-collar workers) were to be made redundant, while only a few months earlier the company had recruited the same number of people to the same posts and given assurances to the effect that production prospects at the Mantua plant were good, despite that fact that SOGEFI had some time before decentralised production lines and transferred codes for the production of filters at its own decentralised San Antonino plant and abroad.

Does the Commission intend to take any action in response to the company management's failure to give the trade unions and workers' representatives advance notice of the planned redundancies?

Does it intend to approach the national authorities should it transpire that Directive 98/59/EC on collective redundancies has been breached in this instance?