

**Question for written answer E-001643/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) for the case of Spanair

On 27 January 2012, the airline Spanair – a company in which the Autonomous Government of Catalonia is a major shareholder – announced permanent cessation of operations and that it would be filing for bankruptcy. The dissolution of the company affected nearly 22 000 passengers and left more than 2 600 workers unemployed.

The situation of the workforce is uncertain. For the moment, staff are on paid leave and have received part of their January salary. However, they have no information about relocation possibilities, receiving compensation, or the situation with regard to their right to apply for unemployment benefit.

In this context, the European Union, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006, makes the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) available to Member States to support the reintegration of workers made unemployed because of severe economic disruptions resulting from changes associated with globalisation.

In light of the situation of workers affected by the collapse of Spanair, has the Commission taken any anticipatory measure in the face of this serious problem? Does it intend to help regional and national authorities in the future? Does the Commission believe it appropriate to mobilise the EGF in this case, as has already been done in some Member States for different sectors, since the fund was created?