

**Question for written answer E-003033/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (Renew)

Subject: Bankruptcy of Thomas Cook and the prospect of a no-deal Brexit

Given the sheer size of the company, Thomas Cook's bankruptcy has sent shockwaves throughout the tourist industry in a number of ways: mass unemployment, hordes of tourists to be repatriated, countless bookings still to be honoured, directly-managed infrastructure to be dealt with, and the precarious situation of suppliers and jobs related indirectly to Thomas Cook. Employment is one of the most pressing issues to be dealt with, along with consumer protection. Thomas Cook employees in the UK make up the lion's share of those affected and will clearly be the first required to pack their bags when it comes to dismissals. The bankruptcy would appear to meet the criteria for the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund to be used.

1. Has the Commission been informed whether the UK Government intends to request that the fund be used, even though the UK is on the verge of leaving the Union?
2. What effects might a no-deal Brexit have on the rights afforded under EU law to Thomas Cook's British customers, both as flight passengers and tour operator customers?