

**Question for written answer E-003522/2019**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Ernest Urtasun** (Verts/ALE)

**Subject:** Closure of General Cable plants in Manlleu and Montcada i Reixac and anti-cartel rules

The company Prysmian recently announced plans to close its General Cable plants in Manlleu and Montcada i Reixac, which specialise in R&D. Under the labour force adjustment plans for the two plants, 334 workers at the Manlleu plant will be directly affected and 153 at the Montcada i Reixac plant. This will have a big impact on the area, in both economic and social terms.

In 2017 Spain's National Markets and Competition Commission (the CNMC) dismantled a cable manufacturers' cartel in which seven companies agreed systematically and constantly on their prices. A market concentration operation similar to the one dismantled in 2017 might be concealed behind the announcement that these two plants are to close.

1. Has the Commission conducted an investigation into the closure of these plants and whether this might infringe Articles 101 and 102 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union as regards restricting competition and achieving a dominant market position?
2. If it has done so, will the Commission make public its decision on the matter?