

**Question for written answer E-001964/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Measures to support workers in the face of the coronavirus crisis in Greece

On 24 March, hundreds of fixed-term contract workers were notified by SMS by an Athens airport company that it was terminating their employment. For the rest of the staff, it unilaterally imposed a two-week rotating shift work system on a monthly basis for a period of six months and reduced their pay by 50% ¹. Similar practices have been adopted by hundreds of other businesses. These workers are not covered by the government's support measures as regards the EUR 800 allowance ².

Given that the European Pillar of Social Rights aims to achieve secure and adaptable employment and the balanced protection of jobs ³ and, in conjunction with the Charter of Fundamental Rights ⁴, seeks to ensure a decent standard of living with adequate minimum wages;

given that the Stability and Growth Pact has been frozen and many Member States have safeguarded the earnings of workers in companies that have been affected by the current crisis at a rate of between 70% to 100%, respectively;

Will the Commission say:

1. Are the measures adopted by the Greek government on 20 March 2020 unilaterally imposing a rotating shift work system in line with EU rules?
2. Do Greek government policies ensure a decent living for workers and sufficiently prevent structural damage to Greece's economy which is already fragile after the many years of austerity?
3. Can the new tools of the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative be used to support these contract workers?

¹ Article 9 of the legislative instrument, Government Gazette 68/20.03.2020

² Articles 9 and 11.2B of the legislative instrument, Government Gazette 68/20.03.2020

³ Article 6.

⁴ Article 31