

**Question for written answer E-001999/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Support for platform workers and small businesses during the Covid-19 crisis

The outbreak of Covid-19, in addition to the serious risks it poses for public health, is having a significant impact on society and the economy; this impact is greatest for those suffering most from the current decline in economic activity. Independent employees, including platform employees and employees in small businesses, are among the most affected categories. The Corona Response Investment Initiative and the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund and the EIB Group demonstrate the Commission's strong commitment to ensuring the welfare of EU citizens and reducing the socio-economic cost of COVID-19.

The private sector is taking steps to help tackle the unprecedented situation by supporting the vulnerable as far as possible, but is unable to fully offset the losses caused by economic inactivity due to prolonged bans on the movement of people.

Given the need to create a safety net for all Europeans, how does the Commission plan:

to ensure the inclusion of all types of worker and business in the emergency aid packages planned throughout the EU?

to modernise the regulatory framework for tackling the social protection gaps faced by platform workers, especially in times of crisis?

to protect the viability of small businesses?