Question for written answer E-003969/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Jordi Cañas (Renew)

Subject: Possible violation of freedom of cross-border movement by French Government

The French Government has put pressure on the multinational car manufacturer PSA to halt the company's intentions to temporarily relocate employees from factories in Poland and Spain to the Opel plant in Hordain, France. The company had justified its internal mobility programme, citing the 'brutal' economic crisis caused by the pandemic and 'the need to react quickly and efficiently to ensure that the PSA group continues to operate'.

Yet a joint statement issued by the Economy and Finance and Labour ministers put pressure on the car manufacturer to rethink its plans: 'At the current juncture, companies must do all they can to protect French jobs'. The French Government wants PSA to rehire temporary workers who were working there before the crisis and are now unemployed, rather than bringing in workers from Poland and Spain.

Given that this calls into question the mobility of workers, which is one of the fundamental freedoms of the internal market:

- 1. What is the Commission's view of this restriction of internal mobility in the single market?
- 2. Does the Commission plan to launch an investigation into possible infringements of EU law by the French Government?