

**Question for written answer E-006983/2020**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)**

**Subject:** Acute problems for fur workers during the pandemic

Workers in the fur sector in Kastoria and Siatista in Voio, Kozani are in dire straits, having suffered for years the consequences of the previous capitalist crisis and the Russian embargo imposed after the EU's sanctions on Russia in 2014, as a result of the unfavourable climate for Greek products.

Tens of thousands of workers are employed in this sector, and the majority of the workforce in these particular regions have also been affected by the lignite phase-out policy of the EU and Greek Governments, leading to thousands of workers losing their jobs.

Workers in the sector, and particularly the thousands of women who sew fur at home, under non-standard work arrangements, without gifts or allowances, accepted the anti-labour offensive by the EU and governments, and the long-lasting Memoranda, but now the problems have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

As a result of the new capitalist crisis and its burden on the shoulders of workers, subject to the threats of employers because of the very high levels of unemployment, hundreds of fur workers are working without collective agreements or insurance, and as a result they currently have no income.

In view of this:

Where does the Commission stand on the demands:

1. to lift the EU sanctions that have led to the Russian embargo and to the difficulties with exports?
2. that the billions lying in the Recovery Fund be used for the support of fur workers and workers as a whole, through immediate relief measures, and not for the EU and the government to decide to pay premiums to business groups?