

**Question for written answer E-001021/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Dismissal of thousands of Greek Post Office employees

The Government has recently tabled a draft amendment seeking the restructuring and further privatisation of Greek post offices, entailing a further 2 000 job cuts, in line with a policy of 'market deregulation' that is systematically sacrificing the reputation enjoyed by the Greek Post Office on the altar of profit.

Services provided by the Post Office have now become extremely expensive, while its employees are among the most exploited among the working classes, with more intensive working conditions, unpredictable working hours, fixed-term contracts, sweatshop wages, exposure to the pandemic and a massive workload. Postal delivery workers in particular are being afforded no protection from the pandemic.

Furthermore this is all in line with the provisions of Directives 97/67/EC, 2002/39/EC and 2008/6/EC.

In the light of this:

What view does the Commission take of the dismissal of 2 000 workers, the pay cuts and reduced entitlements for future workers and the closure of 215 post office outlets, depriving the more remote regions in Greece of necessary parcel and letter delivery services?

Does it not agree that the increased volume of online trading and communications warrants post office staff recruitment rather than dismissals, as well as pay rises, better entitlements, open-ended and stable employment contracts and the protection and enhancement of the rights of all workers in that sector?

Does it agree that the Government and Post Office employers must take immediate responsibility for measures to protect the health and safety of workers?