Question for written answer E-003572/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Redundancies at the GKN plant in Campi Bisenzio

On 9 July, the multinational GKN, owned by British investment fund Melrose Industries, announced by e-mail that 422 employees were to be made redundant at the Tuscan plant in Campi Bisenzio, without giving any prior notice.

The company announced that the closure of the production site and the redundancies were to be considered structural due to negative developments in the automotive components sector; this means that the conditions for using government welfare support have not been met.

However, news reports have shown that this multinational intends to shift its production to another site in a different EU Member State.

In the light of this, what action will the Commission take to ensure that multinationals cannot relocate their businesses within the EU by focusing on the different wage and tax conditions in the Member States, to the detriment of workers' rights and the protection of employment?

Does the Commission not think that GKN's behaviour is in breach of Directive 2002/14/EC, which establishes a general framework for informing and consulting employees by fostering dialogue between employers and workers' representatives?