Question for written answer E-003580/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Mass layoffs at Kavala Oil S.A.

240 workers are set to lose their jobs in a round of mass layoffs by the Energean group Kavala Oil S.A. A ‘voluntary redundancy’ plan to reduce operating costs has been drawn up under which workers will be contracted out, resulting in lower wages and flexible working conditions.

Kavala Oil S.A. is one of the most profitable companies in the sector. In fact, the Greek Parliament recently passed an amendment granting it more than EUR 100 million in loans.

Also at stake is the safety of land and sea installations, as a large part of the work undertaken by experienced and qualified staff is to be carried out by contractors.

In the light of the above:

What is the Commission’s position on the approval by the EU of loans to high-profit corporations conditional on business plans in the context of the national recovery plans, with the result that workers are either driven into mass unemployment or are employed by contractor firms, in galley working conditions and with a general deterioration of their labour rights?

What is its view on the fact that statements by the EU and governments on environmental protection in the context of the Green Deal and the Recovery Fund have not only been shown to have no impact but also endanger the life, health and rights of both workers and residents in the wider region, with the threat of serious consequences for the environment, given that no provision has been made for the safe operation of the installations?