

**Question for written answer E-004409/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Leszek Miller (S&D)**

**Subject:** Setting up and correctly targeting assistance from the Just Transition Fund for workers at power plants and mines in the Konin-Turek area of Poland

Trade union representatives from the Pątnów-Adamów-Konin power plant group in Poland have contacted me for help in ensuring that Just Transition Fund resources go directly to workers in order to create new jobs and lay on training, rather than being earmarked for severance payments and benefits. They are also calling for Just Transition funding to be released as soon as possible so that workers can receive it later this year.

The trade union representatives maintain that the procedures in place and the schedule and contracting of the funding will mean that assistance that is expected right now will not actually be allocated for at least one and a half years, and even then will not necessarily reach those who need it.

The Konin-Turek basin is the only one of Poland's coalmining areas to have a clear date on which coalmining is due to end. The energy transition in the region began in 2018 with the closure of the Adamów power plant. The Adamów mine closed in 2021. Activities involving the mining and burning of coal are expected to be cut by more than half over the next five years. Pątnów II – the last power plant – and the Tomisławice mine are to be closed by 2030.

I share the view that with things changing so quickly, assistance needs to be made available directly to workers straight away.

1. Is the Commission aware that the Konin-Turek area requires immediate EU assistance as part of the energy transition?
2. Will the Commission take action to meet the legitimate expectations of workers as regards the proper targeting of assistance, and what action will it take?