

**Question for written answer E-004496/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: GKN workers dismissal in Campi Bisenzio (Italy) and the revision of the European Works Council Directive

In July 2021, 422 workers employed by the GKN Driveline plant in Campi Bisenzio (Italy) were dismissed without notice following the closure of their plant. The information and consultation procedure involving the European Works Council (EWC) was largely ignored, highlighting shortcomings in the EWC Directive:

The EWC was informed on the same day as the management's announcement of the decision to close the plant. Thus EWC members were not able to deliver opinion in any meaningful way.

GKN central management used a restrictive definition of 'transnational matters' to bypass consultation of EWC members.

This shows that the EWC Directive falls short in terms of ensuring workers' right to information and consultation, and that it should be revised. A right to temporary suspension of a company decision in case of non-compliance with the information and consultation procedure, a revised definition of the transnational character of a matter, and improved national procedures to enforce workers' rights are necessary.

Is the Commission considering legislative initiatives to tackle the EWC Directive's shortcomings in order to avoid similar inappropriate practices in the future?