

**Question for written answer E-005623/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Announcement of closure of the Mahle plant in Vilanova i la Geltrú

On 17 November, the company Mahle announced to its workers that it plans to cease all activity on 20 January 2022, after a history spanning more than 75 years of contributing to the development of the industrial fabric of Vilanova i la Geltrú. After a few days, the company changed this decision, with the possibility of the redundancies of some 312 workers, thus removing the possibility of an industrial conversion of the Mahle plant and creating a ripple effect on a number of parallel companies that will be condemned to closure by Mahle's situation. However, the company is set to receive Next Generation funding for three of its plants in Spain.

1. Is there a control mechanism put in place by the Commission to ensure that a company that relocates is not eligible for Next Generation EU funds?
2. Is the Commission considering restricting access to European funds for companies that promote the closure of profitable production plants and cause job losses where they are located?
3. What alternatives can the Commission offer to avoid this closure in the industrial sector, which has sustained 50% of the redundancies in Catalonia in 2021?