

Question for written answer E-002425/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Virginie Joron (ID)

Subject: Pressure by our neighbours to do away with Parliament in Strasbourg and striking a fresh balance in the distribution of job locations for Commission staff

Parliament currently employs 300 staff in Strasbourg itself¹.

Citing savings, by way of a pretext, our European neighbours regularly press for Parliament's seat in Strasbourg to be shut down.

There are, in this connection, a few staggering figures:

– 288 Parliament staff are apparently employed in 'other locations'¹, i.e. not in Brussels, Strasbourg or Luxembourg, which are the three sites under the Treaties;

– the Commission employs 1 655 staff in Italy, 383 in Spain, 255 in Germany, 204 in the Netherlands and 171 in Ireland (i.e. 2 668 staff in total in those five countries), but only 46 in France².

1. Given that the Commission employs about 36 times more people in Italy than in France (and four times as many in Ireland), does it intend to act to strike a fresh balance, benefiting France, in the distribution of job locations for its staff?
2. What tangible measures has the Commission taken since 2021 to support maintaining the seat of Parliament in Strasbourg and thus ensure the sustainability of the jobs Parliament provides in France?

Submitted: 18.8.2023

¹ <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/faq/21/how-many-people-work-in-the-parliament> (May 2022).

² Statistical Bulletin for the Commission – job locations for Commission staff as at 1 July 2023 (https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/518667ba-d961-44d3-97c2-0735764cc11c_en?filename=statistical-bulletin-20230701.zip).