Question for written answer E-002793/2023 to the Commission

Rule 138

Kostas Papadakis (NI), Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: New anti-worker bill

The anti-worker bill promoted by the ND (New Democracy) government in Greece seeks to incorporate Directive (EU) 2019/1152 into Greek law. Its purpose is to shield and supply a legislative cover for the widespread exploitation of working people. It exalts to legal status the misery of what are called the 'atypical forms of work' that trample the rights, the health and the lives of workers underfoot, marking them 'with the stamp of approval'.

The new anti-worker monstrosity implements the EU's Directives 2003/88 and 2019/1152, which establish a working pattern of up to 13 hours a day and 78 hours a week, for multiple employers, the abolition of five-day working, and work without any limits for six or even seven days, and also generalise the abolition of Sunday as a day of rest.

It sees the introduction of 'guaranteed and non-guaranteed working hours' that tie workers into having to wait for their employer to tell them, 24 hours or less in advance, if he or she will 'need' them.

In view of this:

Will the Commission say what view it takes of the fact that the anti-worker Directive (EU) 2019/1152 on 'transparent (...) working conditions', in conjunction with Directive 2003/88 'on (...) the organisation of working time', constitutes the legislative basis upon which Member State governments, such as that of the ND in Greece, are erecting harsh anti-worker laws that impose medieval working conditions, abolishing workers' rights secured over centuries of fierce and bloody struggles by workers and, through the inhuman working timetables they promote, creating conditions that will send the number of workplace accidents – employer crimes – rocketing sky-high and leading to the sacrifice of dead and crippled workers?

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