Question for written answer E-002967/2023 to the Commission Rule 138 Łukasz Kohut (S&D)

Subject: Notification of the social agreement on the transformation of the coal mining sector and selected transformation processes in Śląskie Province

On 28 May 2021, the Polish Government and representatives of the mining trade unions signed a social agreement on the transformation of the mining sector.

The agreement, which provides a range of solutions and arrangements – including a deadline for the completion of operations by 2049, the establishment of a Silesian Transformation Fund, principles for implementing 'clean coal technologies' and a package of social protections and employment guarantees for workers of decommissioned mines – has still not been notified. The Government has been talking for months about updating the social agreement as a result of the geopolitical situation and the final arrangements on the road to notification, yet meanwhile, miners concerned about the situation are expecting binding deadlines, comprehensive information on the progress of work and the start of the legislative process leading to a coherent energy transition that stabilises the situation, especially in the Silesian labour market.

The energy transition, whose key objective was to prevent climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, is causing even more emotion in the mining sector following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine and the related raw materials crisis. These concerns are compounded by a lack of trust in the Government caused, for example, by its failure to act on the issue of the methane regulation, the blocking of European funds and the crisis in the rule of law, so answers to the following questions are key to preventing the problem from escalating:

- 1. What stage has been reached in the negotiations on the above-mentioned social agreement?
- 2. Are the scope, timetable and deadlines for the mobilisation of funds known?
- 3. What conditions must the Polish Government fulfil in order for the Commission to decide on the notification of the agreement?

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