

**Question for written answer E-000138/2024/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Miguel Urbán Crespo** (The Left), **Mick Wallace** (The Left), **Clare Daly** (The Left)

Subject: Trade union repression in Gijón

In early 2017, a worker at La Suiza patisserie in Gijón went to the trade union CNT to report sexual harassment and continued abuse by her boss, including being forced to carry bags of flour while pregnant, putting her at risk of miscarriage. After a number of failed communication attempts, two legal gatherings were convened to protest about these conditions, and they took place in a totally normal manner compliant with the rule of law, with no need for police intervention.

The employer subsequently reported more than 30 complaints against the worker and members of the trade union. Of those complaints, only one – for defamation and slander – was successful. Consequently, six people are sharing a sentence of three and a half years' imprisonment and have to pay compensation of EUR 120 000 for engaging in trade union activity by means of meetings and protest rallies.

In view of this:

1. Could the Commission take action to protect freedom of association in cases such as this? If so, what kind of action?
2. Does the Commission believe that the rights set out in Directives such as Directive 2003/88/EC or Directive (EU) 2019/1152 and the European Pillar of Social Rights are being infringed in cases such as this?

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