

ORAL QUESTION H-0327/03

for Question Time at the part-session in June 2003

pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure

by Konstantinos Alyssandrakis

to the Commission

Subject:            Hundreds of workers made redundant as businesses go to the wall

Recent bankruptcies, the selling-off of companies in Greece and the transfer of other, profitable businesses to countries with particularly low labour costs and more favourable conditions for exploiting workers are giving rise to a wave of redundancies, justifiable anger on the part of workers and feelings of insecurity intensified by the news that other companies will be going down the same path. Workers at numerous companies, including 'Sisser-Palko', 'Yvonni', 'Yioula', 'Krikas', 'Ippokampos', 'Petalouda', 'Triumph', 'Afoi Antonopouloi', 'Afoi Avgerinopouloi', 'AGNO', 'Alako' etc., are demonstrating, with the support of all the country's workers, against the employers' unaccountability,. The situation is also exacerbated by the fact that the policy of relocating to neighbouring countries paying wretched wages is encouraged by companies being offered the same financial subsidies that are paid within those countries.

Does the Commission believe that such measures can resolve the problem of unemployment and the shrinkage of the productive base in Greece and other Member States and, if not, what measures will it take to change this situation?

Tabled: 22.05.2003

el