

**Priority question for written answer P-001173/2021/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Silvia Sardone (ID)**

Subject: Closure of the Henkel factory in Lomazzo

The detergent multinational Henkel has announced the closure, in June, of its factory in Lomazzo, which has been operational since 1933 as the 'Società Italiana Persil'. This means that more than 150 workers risk losing their jobs – including both direct employees and those under contract to the Lomazzo factory, providing services ranging from the canteen, to transport, logistics and maintenance. Henkel employees have always contributed to the growth of this business. It would be a reckless and very grave decision to lay them off now – including from an ethical point of view – for no specific, real reason. The reasons given by the Henkel management do not appear to be justified, as the detergent sector has not shown any negative sales trends; redundancies, meanwhile, would come at a stage where corporate social responsibility – referred to also in the national contract for the chemical industry – is being completely disregarded. This closure, quite frankly, given the current pandemic-related economic situation, appears to be extremely prejudicial.

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is it aware of the situation and does it not think it would be helpful to postpone the closure of the factory?
2. Has Henkel ever received any grants from the EU?
3. Will it take any measures to support the workers and the area affected by this corporate crisis?