

**Priority question for written answer P-001529/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Marianne Vind (S&D)

Subject: Workers' rights in Myanmar under the MADE in Myanmar project

Since the coup d'état in Myanmar in February 2021, the Myanmar military has been violently attacking and imprisoning trade union leaders who exercise their fundamental freedom of association and defend workers' rights. On 2 March 2021, the Myanmar State Administrative Council (SAC) declared 16 labour organisations illegal.

The Commission continues to fund the MADE in Myanmar project and has recently received criticism from several trade unions for not defending or upholding labour standards and fundamental workers' rights under this project. They specifically criticise factories involved in the project for replacing legitimate trade unions with workplace coordination committees, undermining workers' rights in the process.

1. How does the Commission ensure that the MADE in Myanmar project respects workers' rights and freedom of association in the workplace?
2. Can the Commission guarantee that workers working under the MADE in Myanmar project have their right to freedom of association respected at a time where Myanmar has declared labour organisations illegal?
3. Can the Commission guarantee that funding for the MADE in Myanmar project is granted on the condition that workers can be represented by free and democratic trade unions?

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