

**Priority question for written answer P-001828/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Labour crime and subcontracting chains

The EU lacks a coherent anti-labour-crime strategy. Labour crime is a transnational phenomenon and is committed throughout Europe. Workers are being harmed, are being underpaid and are doing very dangerous jobs in poor conditions. Criminal firms are making easy money by exploiting cheap labour. Long chains of subcontractors are used for wage dumping and for evading employers' responsibilities and taxes. There is a need for a common defence against labour crime. Accordingly:

1. How is the Commission ensuring a balance between free movement in the EU internal market and protection of workers' rights?
2. What control mechanisms and sanctions are in place to combat rogue employers and criminals who take advantage of free movement?
3. What action does the Commission intend to take to counter this worrying trend in Europe?

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