# Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: redundancies in textiles sector in Spain

2010/2136(BUD) - 07/10/2010 - Budgetary text adopted by Parliament

The European Parliament adopted by 538 votes to 64 with 8 abstentions a resolution approving the attached proposal for a decision on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF).

The Fund will be mobilised for a total amount of **EUR 1 844 700** in commitment and payment appropriations **to assist Spain in respect of redundancies in the textiles sector.**

Parliament recalls that the European Union set up the appropriate legislative and budgetary instruments to provide additional support to workers who are suffering from the consequences of major structural changes in world trade patterns and to assist their reintegration into the labour market.

Noting that Spain has requested assistance in respect of cases concerning 703 redundancies in 82 enterprises operating in the NACE Division 2 Revision 14 (manufacture of clothing apparel) in the NUTS II region of Galicia, and that the application fulfils the eligibility criteria set up by the EGF Regulation, Parliament asks the institutions involved to make the necessary efforts to accelerate the mobilisation of the EGF.

In addition, Parliament recalls that:

- the EGF should support the reintegration of the individual redundant workers into employment and that assistance from the EGF shall not replace actions which are the responsibility of companies by virtue of national law or collective agreements, nor measures restructuring companies or sectors;
- in the context of mobilising the EGF, the Commission should not systematically transfer payment appropriations from the ESF, since the EGF was created as a separate specific instrument with its own objectives and deadlines;
- the functioning and the added value of the EGF should be evaluated in the context of the general assessment of the programmes and other various instruments created by the IIA of 17 May 2006, within the process of the 2007-2013 multiannual financial framework mid-term review.

Parliament welcomes the fact that, in the context of mobilising the EGF, **an alternative source of payment appropriations to unused ESF funds has been proposed by the Commission**, following the frequent reminders by the European Parliament that the EGF was created as a separate specific instrument with its own objectives and deadlines and that appropriate budget lines for transfers must therefore be identified.

It also notes that, in order to mobilise the EGF for this case, payment appropriations will be transferred from a budget line dedicated to the support of SMEs and innovation; (even if it regrets the severe shortcomings of the Commission when implementing programmes on competitiveness and innovation, particularly during an economic crisis which should significantly increase the need for such support).

Lastly, Parliament welcomes the new format of the Commission's proposal, presenting in its explanatory memorandum, clear and detailed information on the application, analysing the eligibility criteria and explaining the reasons which lead to its approval, which is in line with Parliament's requests.