

Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: redundancies in the automotive sector in Portugal

2011/2262(BUD) - 01/12/2011 - Budgetary text adopted by Parliament

The European Parliament adopted by 527 votes to 66, with 19 abstentions, a resolution on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for an amount of **EUR 1 518 465** in commitment and payment appropriations in respect of redundancies in the automotive sector in Portugal.

Parliament recalls that the European Union has 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.

Given that Portugal has requested assistance in respect of a case concerning 726 redundancies, all targeted for assistance, in three enterprises operating in the NACE Revision 2 Division 29 ('Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers') in the NUTS II regions of Norte (PT11) and Centro (PT16) in Portugal, Parliament invites the institutions involved to make the necessary efforts to accelerate the mobilisation of the EGF for the requested amount. It appreciates in this sense the improved procedure put in place by the Commission, following Parliament's request for accelerating the release of grants, aimed at presenting to the budgetary authority the Commission's assessment on the eligibility of an EGF application together with the proposal to mobilise the EGF. Furthermore, it hopes that further improvements in the procedure will be made within the framework of the upcoming review of the EGF and that greater efficiency and transparency of the EGF will be achieved.

Parliament recalls the institutions' commitment to ensuring a smooth and rapid procedure for the adoption of the decisions on the mobilisation of the EGF, providing one-off, time-limited individual support geared to helping workers who have suffered redundancies as a result of globalisation and the financial and economic crisis.

It also recalls that:

- assistance from the EGF must not replace actions which are the responsibility of companies by virtue of national law or collective agreements, nor measures restructuring companies or sectors;
- the information provided on the coordinated package of personalised services to be funded from the EGF includes information on the complementarity with actions funded by the Structural Funds.

Parliament welcomes the fact that, following its repeated requests, for the first time the 2011 budget shows payment appropriations of EUR 47 608 950 on the EGF budget line 04 05 01. It welcomes the foreseen reinforcement of the payment appropriations on the EGF budget line that will be requested through the Global Transfer and that will be used to cover the amount of EUR 1 518 465 needed for this application.