

**Question for written answer E-007097/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Cost of relocating refining operations from Matosinhos and European funds to support the climate transition

In a working document from February 2020, the Commission labelled the manufacturing of refined petroleum products in Matosinhos a highly polluting industry and warned of the 'significant negative economic and social impacts' that the transition towards climate neutrality would have on the region.

This week, the Galp Group, in which the Portuguese State holds a considerable stake, decided to close the refinery and concentrate the company's operations in Sines, putting several hundred jobs on the line.

I would like to know:

1. Since February 2020, has the Portuguese Government sent the Commission a study or forecast of the social, economic and territorial costs of the transition towards climate neutrality for the Matosinhos region?
2. Has the Portuguese Government already asked the Commission to revise its proposed allocation from the Just Transition Fund (JTF) in view of the Galp Group's decision?
3. While the polluter-pays principle (Article 191 TFEU), the duty to promote economic, social and territorial cohesion (Articles 4(2) and 174 TFEU) and the JTF (still under negotiation) leave Member States with a margin of discretion in implementing European funds, is it correct to say that if a polluting activity is relocated, the funds for the transition are to go to the region where operations will cease?