

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002543/26
to the Commission
Marcin Sypniewski (ESN)
(19 June 2026)**

Subject: Mass redundancies in Upper Silesia and the Just Transition Fund

The Commission has announced that the energy transition will protect jobs and create new, high-quality jobs in coal and industrial regions. However, despite over EUR 2 billion being allocated from the Just Transition Fund (JTF) to Silesia to create jobs, the region is experiencing mass layoffs. In May 2026, Jastrzębska Spółka Węglowa announced a redundancy programme for up to 4 248 employees, while the Stellantis factory in Tychy laid off 740 people as a result of EU emission standards. The current transition process therefore does not appear to be protecting the local labour market and is not creating sustainable alternatives at a sufficient pace.

In light of the above:

1. Does the Commission plan to carry out an independent audit of the effectiveness of the JTF in Silesia in order to realistically assess whether the funds spent actually created a sufficient number of sustainable jobs?
2. Is the Commission investigating the phenomenon of accelerated deindustrialisation in JTF regions and the direct impact of EU climate policy on mass redundancies in key workplaces?
3. Does the Commission envisage reorienting the priorities of the JTF and making its budget more flexible in order to save regional economic potential and to effectively tackle structural unemployment?

Submitted: 19.6.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(21 August 2026)**

1. The Commission closely monitors the implementation and performance of the Just Transition Fund (JTF) through regular reporting, Monitoring Committees, Annual Performance Reviews and audits. Managing Authorities are required to report on programme indicators, enabling the Commission to assess progress against the objectives set out in the Territorial Just Transition Plans (TJTPs), prepared by Member States and regions in partnership with local stakeholders. The JTF programme for Silesia is the largest in the EU, with an allocation of EUR 2.2 billion. By March 2026, 85% of this allocation had already been committed to selected operations ⁽¹⁾.

2. The TJTPs identify the challenges and risks of deindustrialisation in the territories in transition and job creation is a central objective of the JTF. The Commission is aware that the pace and nature of transition process differ across regions and sectors. The JTF is not intended to prevent individual restructuring decisions by companies. Rather, it provides targeted support to help affected territories diversify their economies, attract new investment, support small and medium-sized enterprises, and equip workers with the skills needed for emerging industries. By 2029, in Silesia, the JTF is expected to support the acquisition of skills by up to 105194 people, 613 enterprises and the creation of around 2785 jobs ⁽²⁾.

3. Looking ahead, the Commission has proposed that the future National and Regional Partnership Plans support regions undergoing transition through a new specific objective ⁽³⁾ ‘supporting a just transition’, enabling to continue assisting territories facing structural change while building on the experience and achievements of the JTF.

⁽¹⁾ Just Transition Mechanism — Performance: https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/performance-and-reporting/programme-performance-statements/just-transition-mechanism-performance_en and Cohesion Open Data: <https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/funds/jtf/21-27#finance-implementation>.

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/in-your-country/programmes/2021-2027/pl/2021pl16ffpr012_en.

⁽³⁾ Article 3(1)(a)(III) of the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security for the period 2028-2034.