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[Press release](#) | 12.02.2026

Subcontracting: MEPs stand on the side of workers

Today, MEPs voted in favour of the report on addressing gaps in long subcontracting chains. The Greens/EFA Group has long called on the Commission to deliver the promised directive to limit subcontracting layers, ensure joint liability, and protect workers' rights.

MEP Benedetta Scuderi, Greens/EFA shadow rapporteur on the file, comments:

“Long subcontracting chains lead to exploitation, social dumping, injuries, and deaths for which no one takes responsibility. With this report, the European Parliament stands firmly on the side of workers. We need clear rules that tell us who is responsible for the health and safety of workers and how.

“Despite right-wing political games that watered down our ambitious demands — weakening calls for strict limits on subcontracting chains and broader liability — today’s vote still sends a clear signal to the Commission. These manoeuvres will not deter us; the Greens/EFA will fight even harder for the strong directive workers desperately need.

“We reject the idea pushed by the rightwing parties that competitiveness justifies low wages and unsafe workplaces. True competitiveness comes with dignity, fair pay, and safety. The Commission must act swiftly and propose a directive — hundreds of thousands of lives depend on it.”

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Responsible MEPs



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