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**MEP Urges Rapid Fund Action for Intel Workers**

Any workers made redundant by cutbacks in Intel should have measures under the European Globalisation Fund (EGF) assessed by the Department of Education & Skills and an early application made to support those who lose their jobs

This was proposed by Independent MEP Marian Harkin, the European Parliament’s Rapporteur for the Fund when she said that no time should be lost in drawing up a programme for Intel workers.

“In Ireland we have had good and bad experiences of accessing the EGF but we have had enough successful applications to indicate that early involvement by representatives of workers and the Department of Education will be vital to achieving needed supports for redundant workers”, she said.

Note to Editor:

The EGF was set up to assist redundant workers to access education and training or to start their own business. The Fund provides support to people who lose their jobs as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation eg. when a large company shuts down or production is moved outside the EU, or as a result of the global economic and financial crisis.

The EGF has a maximum annual budget of EUR 150 million for the period 2014 – 2020. It can fund up to 60% of the cost of projects designed to help workers made redundant, find another job or set up their own business.

Link to EGF: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catld=3326>

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