

In April 2021, Juan Manuel Bedia Diez, a worker who served as a manager of an ALDI store in Santander, took his own life. According to his wife, work problems began after the union elections in September 2020. Four months later, the company fired two workers and received an anonymous complaint against the deceased for harassment of a third party after changing jobs. ALDI sanctioned Bedia with three days without work and salary, and notified him of his transfer to a store in Laredo, about 45 kilometers away. The deceased's family wants to clarify the alleged workplace harassment in court. On February 27, 2023, the Provincial Court of Cantabria determined that Bedia's death was a workplace accident, recognizing the relationship between work problems and his suicide. This is uncommon since since 1970, the Supreme Court has issued less than a dozen similar sentences. The deceased's family plans to file a lawsuit for damages against ALDI. The ruling also emphasizes that, although it occurs outside the workplace, suicide can be considered a workplace accident if there is a causal connection between work and suicidal behavior.