

**Question for written answer E-008920/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Norbert Erdős (PPE)

Subject: Possibility of EU subsidy for the purchase of equipment needed for engineering work in connection with the preparation and execution of EU-subsidised building projects

There has been a growth in demand - both quantitative and qualitative - for engineering services for the preparation and completion of a significant number of current and scheduled - EU-subsidised - building projects. Furthermore, the time available to meet these demands has shrunk.

These increased demands can only be met in the available time by using up-to-date equipment.

These include: computers, specialised planning software, printers, plotters, photocopiers, folding machines, and geodetic and quality-control equipment. This equipment is expensive. The rapid development of technology means that this equipment has to be replaced every five years. To our knowledge, there is no option of applying for EU funding for the purchase of equipment for engineering work, and not many engineering firms can manage to purchase or replace such equipment out of their own pockets.

It is important that engineering firms stand ready to meet increased building demand. It is in all of our interests that EU building projects do not suffer delays because engineering firms do not have the appropriate equipment. It is therefore justified to provide engineering firms with EU subsidies to obtain up-to-date equipment.

Does any possibility exist for an EU subsidy to purchase equipment needed for engineering work in connection with the preparation and execution of EU-subsidised building projects? If so, under precisely what measures may applications be made for funding for the purchase of such equipment?

What EU measures exist under which engineering firms may in future apply for funding?