

**Question for written answer E-009656/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: EU funding for UAV test base

The National Institute of Aerospace Technology, an agency which is managed by the Spanish Ministry of Defence, has stated its intention to turn Rozas aerodrome (Lugo) into a test base for Unmanned Air Vehicles (UAVs). The President of the Galician Regional Government recently declared that he had signed an agreement with the Spanish Ministry of Defence to invest EUR 10 million into equipping Rozas aerodrome with facilities to enable UAVs to be flown in Lugo airspace, and at the same time it was announced that EU funds would be used to carry out this work. NATO has repeatedly expressed an interest in establishing UAV bases in Europe, and has even gone as far as to confirm plans – now discarded – to set up a drone base in Trasmirás (Ourense).

1. Is the Commission aware that EU funds from the RIS3 Smart Specialisation Strategy programme are being used to develop military technology? Does it approve of the way in which these funds are being invested?
2. Is the EU providing funds for UAV testing?
3. Does the Commission know whether the Regional Government of Galicia applied for or used EU funds to turn Rozas aerodrome into a UAV base?