Question for written answer E-010964/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: Funds for research under Horizon 2020: the case of the social sciences and humanities

Over recent years, universities and research centres in many EU countries have suffered from budget cuts and faced critical conditions. As a remedy to this situation, last year the EU launched the Horizon 2020 Work Programme (replacing the seventh research framework programme), which aims to support 12 focus areas with more than EUR 7 billion in funding for the 2014-2020 period.

The social sciences and humanities (SSH), which include economics, political science, sociology, law, history, the humanities and linguistics among their disciplines, are defined by the EU as being at 'the heart of the societal challenge "Europe in a changing world: inclusive, innovative and reflective societies" (part 13 of the Work Programme)'; they account for around 35 % of all the topics included in the Work Programme.

Nevertheless, the estimated budget for SSH, at approximately EUR 400 million, is far lower than that for other disciplines.

Within this programme, how is the budget shared among the different disciplines and, in particular, what is the precise budget allocated to SSH research for each year of the 2014-2020 period?

1044502.EN PE 546.009