

**Question for written answer E-000719/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Structural funding and EU regions

EU structural funding from the European Social Fund (ESF) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) has traditionally been awarded to the various EU regions on the basis of their wealth or relative economic development.

As long as this relative development is measured in terms of GDP per capita, regions in countries which have high levels of fiscal deficit between rich and poor areas will continue to be severely discriminated against.

1. Should disposable income per capita not be used as a basic indicator of the distribution of EU structural funding rather than GDP per capita?
2. Has the Commission carried out any studies into how the regions would be reclassified if this new, more suitable indicator were used?