

**Question for written answer E-001811/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Investment in construction of kindergartens and schools from the OP for Regional Competitiveness

Responding to information from the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports and the public call from the relevant ministry for proposals for the construction of kindergartens, schools and scientific institutions in Croatia, all to be funded from the European Regional Development Fund, local governments allocated substantial financial resources for the preparation of documents requested in the public call and have submitted their projects.

According to current information it appears that the European Commission has adopted an Operational Programme for Regional Competitiveness which does not include the possibility of funding, among others, kindergartens and schools as potential beneficiaries of the European Regional Development Fund.

Is this because the competent Croatian authorities and the Croatian Government have failed to specify and well prepare their programme in this respect and have simply 'forgotten' to include in the operational programme kindergartens and schools and their projects as possible EFRD beneficiaries, or is it because the European Commission has not approved this type of investment?

What is the situation with other Operational Programmes for Regional Competitiveness (2014-2020) adopted so far: has the European Commission approved investment in the construction of kindergartens and schools in other Member States and is it included in the Operational Programmes for Regional Competitiveness?