

**Question for written answer E-003324/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Carlos Iturgaiz (PPE)

Subject: SME Initiative

By late January 2015, of the 28 EU Member States only Spain had launched the SME Initiative, the programme designed by the Commission to unlock additional lending for small and medium-sized enterprises by reallocating part of the country's funding from Structural Funds to enable the EIB to secure credits for SMEs and holders of pre-existing loans.

How will the Initiative be implemented to benefit SMEs? Will it take the form of a single, nationally managed Operational Programme? If not, under what Regional Operational Programme priority area will the Initiative be included? What Operational Programme priority area(s) will see part of its/their funding reallocated to the SME Initiative?