

**Question for written answer E-003326/2015/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Carlos Iturgaiz (PPE)

Subject: SME Initiative

By late January 2015, Spain was the only Member State to have launched the SME Initiative, which the Commission hopes will kick-start investment by small and medium-sized enterprises. Spain sets aside part of the Structural Fund resources earmarked for it, and on that basis the EIB guarantees loans for SMEs and securitises pre-existing loans.

What type of projects will be supported under the SME Initiative? How will the selection process work?

How will this European initiative mesh with the plan proposed by President Juncker to boost investment in the Union?

Will this not reduce even further the scarce cohesion resources available for the current programming period 2014-2020?