

**Question for written answer E-005309/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Increase in aid for promoting e-commerce in European businesses

The report by the European Court of Auditors on the efficacy of ERDF aid to SMEs for promoting e-commerce highlights that progress has been made in this area, but that improvements are still required.

Between 2007 and 2013 almost EUR 3 000 million in ERDF funds were used to promote the installation of information and communication technologies by SMEs, but it is also apparent that the results of this aid were not sufficiently monitored and there is evidence that aid was given to projects which it is hard to believe could be profitable.

In view of this report, what measures is the Commission going to take to improve the support which it provides to SMEs so that they can boost their businesses by the proper application of information and communication technologies?

What budget is going to be allocated for this purpose in this new budget period?