

**Question for written answer E-008380/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Use of the ESF for pre-financing YEI programmes in France

This month, Parliament adopted the decision to draw on the European Social Fund (ESF) to secure pre-financing for selected programmes supported by the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI). Up to now, the ESF has been providing up to 1 % of the cost of these as pre-financing. It has been decided that the ESF will now cover 30 % as pre-financing.

It should be remembered that the ESF, which has a provision of EUR 10 billion, is already used to fund numerous projects to support jobs in Europe and is not inexhaustible.

France is – we would remind you – a country that is a net contributor, so can the Commission please give us assurances that this increased ESF support will be useful and will actually enable the YEI to develop more youth-employment schemes in France?

So that we can be sure of the progress of EU-funded projects and ensure that European and national funding are not being used at the same time for a given project, can the Commission also provide an evaluation of the projects under way in France?