

**Question for written answer E-008704/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Deterioration in Spain's cultural heritage

Spain's cultural heritage is under serious threat. After the crisis, investment in heritage conservation fell significantly, jeopardising the survival of a large number of monuments. A striking example is the town of Sasamón, the state of whose heritage – Roman roads and bridges, churches and temples – has worsened significantly. There is an immediate threat to its survival, jeopardising not only the town's history and conservation but also visitors and tourism in the area.

The Commission recognises that cultural heritage enriches the lives of citizens, is a driving force for the cultural and creative sectors, and plays a key role in creating and enhancing Europe's social capital. In the same context, the founding treaties provide that the EU must ensure that Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced (Article 3 TEU), while if necessary supporting and supplementing Member States' action to conserve and safeguard cultural heritage of European significance.

Bearing in mind the situation facing Spain's heritage, and in particular the town of Sasamón, what steps will be taken to protect Spain's historic heritage?

Does the Commission believe that the amount allocated from ERDF funds has been sufficient to ensure its conservation?