

**Question for written answer E-013828/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)

Subject: Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME) in Navarre

Within the EU, according to Commission data, there are 23 million SMEs. They account for 99% of European businesses and provide 67% of employment. They are currently extremely important, given that they generate the highest proportion of jobs, as a percentage, within the EU (85%). Of the 40 759 companies in the Spanish region of Navarre, 40 686 are SMEs (with between 0 and 249 employees): some 99.82% of the total number of companies.

The aim of the COSME programme is to give those companies a boost by making it easier for them to access funding and markets, promoting entrepreneurship and enhancing the conditions for the creation and growth of businesses. It is a very positive initiative for the European economy in general.

Could the Commission state how many companies in Navarre have benefited from this programme, and what outcomes are currently being achieved?