Question for written answer E-016069/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)

Subject: ERDF funds in the renewable energy sector

The use of the ERDF in the renewable energy sector has been correct in theory, since its aim is to promote and boost local industry. However, the failure to take account of the European and global dimension of the sector can have negative consequences.

This is because in the EU, for example, there are already many such centres that could be used by companies in other countries, so that new infrastructure would not need to be built. However, it would appear that local companies do not trust centres in other countries, which means they continue to establish new ones. This merely fragments the market and results in an ineffective use of renewable energy centres in Europe.

It would appear that the solution to making good use of ERDF funds is to invest in measures that raise awareness among companies and encourage the use of all European infrastructure. In addition, the capacity of each European centre could be monitored and the information made public to companies, while promoting their use. Is the Commission considering a solution to this problem, taking into account Article 193 of the TFEU?

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