

**Question for written answer E-001393/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Dariusz Rosati (PPE)

Subject: Transferring the powers of the managing authority for the Lubuskie Province Regional Operational Programme from local to central level

Provincial boards have acted as managing authorities for regional operational programmes (ROPs) during both the multiannual financial framework (MFF) 2007-2013 and that for 2014-2010. These boards are authorised to negotiate with the Commission on setting up the ROPs for the current MFF, to develop procedures for distributing the funds, to implement the programme, and to oversee, monitor and evaluate the entire process. The provincial boards' decision-making processes – including that of Lubuskie Provincial Board – are currently independent of the central government. This is fully justified by the very nature of self-governance, which is a concept that enables an effective response to social and economic needs at provincial level.

Following the national election, there have been discussions about whether the powers of the ROP managing authorities should be delegated to the regional governors, as formal representatives of the provincial governments.

In view of the above, can the Commission state:

1. Are such changes possible in the context of applicable EU legislation, taking into account that the ROP negotiations have been concluded and the programmes themselves are already being implemented?
2. If such changes were made, would the offices of the marshals still be allowed to act as implementing authorities under EU law, or would this make it necessary for the managing authorities to play that role?