

**Question for written answer E-003594/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ivana Maletić (PPE)**

Subject: Youth Employment Initiative (YEI)

Given that the level of pre-financing under the Youth Employment Initiative has proven to be unsatisfactory, last year the Commission proposed additional initial pre-financing for operational programmes that receive YEI support, and the amount in question, about EUR 1 billion, was approved by Parliament and the Council in April 2015.

As provided for in the regulation, the initial pre-financing should be used by Member States only for payments to those beneficiaries implementing programmes supported by the YEI, in accordance with Article 81(2) of the Common Provisions Regulation, and should be made available to the competent authority without delay.

In addition, to ensure that the additional pre-financing results in immediate implementation of the YEI, the proposal provides, as regards these operational programmes, that if 12 months after the entry into force of the regulation the Commission has not received interim payment applications in which the Union contribution from the YEI amounts to at least 50% of the additional pre-financing, the additional pre-financing must be reimbursed to the Commission.

Taking into account that the above deadline expires on 23 May 2016, I would be interested to know which Member States are concerned and what amounts of payment they had applied for by the end of April.