

**Question for written answer E-006193/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Structural Fund payments based on national income

Having previously asked whether Structural Fund payments should not be based on national income rather than on GDP, we must now return to this matter for two reasons:

- The first relates to the disparities between GDP and social development in the regional Social Progress Index (SPI) being drawn up by the Committee on Regional Development. The best example of this is in our own region, Catalonia, which has a high GDP, resulting in substantial financial transfers to other regions (around 8 % of GDP), leaving its level of social development lower than in regions with a smaller GDP.

- The second concerns the significant divergence between GDP and national income in certain countries such as Ireland and Luxembourg, which, by the way, would appear to relate to the establishment there of businesses drawn by tax incentives, thereby diverting to the countries in question GDP actually generated in other Member States.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission have, or will it seek to obtain from the Member States, the necessary information regarding national and regional income, including the effect of internal financial transfers and the resulting primary income balance?

2. Given that Member State contributions to the EU budget are based on national income, should the same not also apply to the allocation of Structural Fund payments?