

**Question for written answer E-007164/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: EU funding to the United Kingdom

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU's main funding programmes for supporting growth and jobs across the EU. The UK has been allocated EU funds under the ESIF in the funding round for 2014 to 2020, with the European Social Fund (ESF) and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), jointly referred to as the EU Structural Funds, investing around EUR 11.8 billion across the UK during 2014-2020.

Given the uncertainty following the UK referendum result and widespread concerns about the potential loss of EU funding, the Commission is asked to answer the following:

1. Does it agree that those programmes are strategic investment plans with long-term perspectives linked to political objectives such as labour market, SME support and climate protection that have been agreed for the years to come, and should therefore go ahead irrespective of the exit negotiations?
2. Can it confirm that the EU funding allocated to the UK will be delivered and that projects under the ESIF will be implemented in full for the programming period 2014-2020?
3. Has it already made plans for, or is it considering, continued cooperation with the UK for the programming period post-2020, in view of ERDF support for territorial cooperation, including non-EU countries?