

**Question for written answer E-009648/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Bogdan Andrzej Zdrojewski (PPE)

Subject: Geographical imbalances in the distribution of funds under the Creative Europe programme

The main objectives of the Creative Europe programme are the protection, development and promotion of Europe's cultural and linguistic diversity, as well as increasing the competitiveness of Europe's cultural and creative sectors. Ensuring geographical balance in terms of the implementation of actions in this area was not directly stipulated by the provisions of the regulation establishing the programme. However, this represents one of the main hurdles to its implementation. So far, it has been possible to observe clear imbalances in the geographical distribution of projects under the programme's 'Culture' and 'Media' components. Similar concerns have also been raised concerning the implementation of the recently established Financial Guarantee Facility for the cultural and creative sectors under the cross-sectoral strand.

Given the upcoming mid-term review of the programme, could the Commission say what type of measures it has taken – or intends to take – in order to ensure that the distribution of funds under the programme is more balanced in terms of geographical distribution? Furthermore, how does it intend to make better use of the potential offered by the Creative Europe programme's office in order to attain this objective?