

**Question for written answer E-001757/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Anneleen Van Bossuyt (ECR)

Subject: EU aid for leveraging private sector investments

The Commission claims to be successful in leveraging private sector investments for innovation activities that are relevant to society or the economy, and its track record in this area should not be underestimated. However, a large part of these private sector investments concern in-kind contributions, which may negatively impact the ERA target of R&D investments amounting to at least 3 % of GDP.

1. How can the Commission ensure that the private sector's in-kind contributions in Joint Undertakings (Joint Technology Initiatives) and other industrial leadership initiatives actually represent new investments?
2. What type of system is the Commission using or will it set up in the future to ensure that the private sector actually invests with new funding and does not simply recycle earlier planned investments?
3. What is the Commission doing to ensure that these initiatives, instead of just focusing on incremental technological steps forward, are more geared towards disruptive innovations that have the potential to make a great impact on European society and the European economy?