

**Question for written answer E-001476/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Dominique Martin (ENF)**

Subject: The Commission and the EUR 27 billion euros it has lost track of

According to the European Court of Auditors report<sup>1</sup> on freedom of movement, EUR 27.5 billion (2014-2020) from the European Social Fund (ESF) has been allocated by the Commission to finance actions in favour of workers' mobility, but 'EU funded actions facilitating labour mobility under the ESF cannot be identified' (p. 43) and: 'The amounts used by Member States for such purposes are unknown (p. 16)'.

Outside the ESF, EUR 165 million is devoted to EURES<sup>2</sup> activities. According to the Court of Auditors, these EUR 165 million have had little impact on employment (p. 48). 'Amongst those already using EURES most found the site via web searches or by chance' (page 16). 88% of job vacancies published on EURES did not even indicate the starting date (p. 45). Most of the offers did not indicate the salary, the number of hours of work or the deadline for submitting an application. We understand that 60% of users would not think of using EURES again.

How many euros have been sunk into EURES/SEDOC<sup>3</sup> since its creation in 1973?

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<sup>1</sup> Special Report No. 06/2018: Free movement of workers – the fundamental freedom ensured but better targeting of EU funds would aid worker mobility, p. 46. Survey

[https://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECADocuments/SR18\\_06/SR\\_Labour\\_Mobility\\_EN.pdf](https://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECADocuments/SR18_06/SR_Labour_Mobility_EN.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> The EURES platform is supposed to help jobseekers go abroad to find a job in Europe.

<https://ec.europa.eu/eures/public/fr/homepage>.

<sup>3</sup> SEDOC is the old name for EURES.