

**Question for written answer E-002418/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Florent Marcellesi (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Adjustment of the co-financing rate of ESI Funds for sparsely and very sparsely populated areas

Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 establishes common provisions for the European Structural and Investment Funds. Article 121 of this regulation states that the co-financing rate of the Funds for a priority area may be adjusted to take into account, among other things, 'sparsely (less than 50 inhabitants per square kilometre) and very sparsely (less than 8 inhabitants per square kilometre) populated areas'.

1. Which of the eligible Member States and regions are applying said adjustment, and which are not?
2. What additional co-financing rates are being applied by those Member States and regions that are making use of this possibility?
3. What is the Commission's assessment of the effects of this measure and the use the Member States and regions concerned are making of it?