

**Question for written answer E-002194/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Reduced innovation capacity of Romania

According to the European Scoreboard on Innovation, Romania is ranked last place among Member States in terms of innovation, and is considered a modest innovator. Globally, Europe should increase its innovative capacity in order to face competition on the world market and to maintain and improve European living standards.

The European Scoreboard on Innovation and the Regional Scoreboard on Innovation shows that the EU's performance in terms of innovation has steadily improved for four years in a row. For the first time, Europe's innovative capacity has exceeded that of the United States of America. Unfortunately, Romania comes bottom in the European Union when it comes to innovation. Innovation is the engine of current social, political and economic development. The prosperity of Member States, as well as their social security, depends to a large extent on innovation, and Romanians must be part of an innovative union.

What tools does the Commission have to increase innovative capacity?