

**Question for written answer P-006100/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Possible fraud in relation to public funds in Andalusia

Since May, the Spanish Anti-corruption Office (Fiscalía Anticorrupción) has been investigating irregularities in public aid from the European Social Fund, within the framework of the Regional Operational Programme ESF 2007-2013 Andalucía, geared to training courses for the promotion of employment.

The alleged offences under investigation are fraud and false accounting with regard to the subsidies granted. Some of the beneficiary companies have allegedly given false employment contracts in order to receive the full amount of aid, but without complying with the subsequent recruitment commitment. According to the Financial and Tax Crime Unit of the Criminal Investigation Department (*Comisaría General de Policía Judicial*), up to EUR 2000 million could have been defrauded.

Given that the European Anti-Fraud Office is responsible for taking legal action in the case of the improper use of public funds, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is it aware of any action having been taken to ascertain whether the funds allocated to the Andalusia region have been properly used?
2. If not, will the Commission take any action to ascertain whether these funds have been properly used?
3. Priority axis 7 of the Operational Programme for Andalusia (about 0.6% of the total investment) provides technical assistance regarding management and monitoring activities; how has the Commission been monitoring this Operational Programme?