

**Question for written answer P-006720/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Werner Langen (PPE)**

Subject: Town twinning

Town twinning has been one of the activities promoted by the Europe for Citizens programme (under 'Action 1 – Active Citizens for Europe'). In 2007, EU wide, more than 50% of the applications for support for twinning schemes were approved. The corresponding figure in 2013 was barely 15%. The approval rate in Germany in 2013 was approximately 20%<sup>1</sup>.

The total funding allocated to the programme in the period 2007-2013 was EUR 215 million.

At least 45% of this (i.e. EUR 96.75 million) was earmarked for 'Action 1'.

1. How many applications under the four areas of action were submitted and how many were approved, both in the EU as a whole and in Germany (in each of the years 2007-2013 and also in 2014 (year (n+1)))?
2. What percentages of the available funding for each area of action were spent, both in the EU as a whole and in Germany?
3. Why were so many applications rejected, both in the EU as a whole and in Germany, and what were the main grounds for rejecting them?

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<sup>1</sup> Source: [www.kontaktstelle-efbb.de](http://www.kontaktstelle-efbb.de)