

**Question for written answer P-000538/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Mircea Diaconu (ALDE)

Subject: Implementation of the Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility

Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1295/2013 gives general information about the implementation of the Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility within the framework of the Creative Europe programme. This financial instrument was designed to help SMEs and micro, small and medium-sized organisations in the cultural and creative sectors across the EU. Recital 22 of the abovementioned regulation states: 'Selected financial intermediaries should act in favour of cultural and creative projects to ensure a balanced loans portfolio in terms of geographical coverage and sector representation.'

The Commission is asked to provide greater clarification regarding the following issues:

- In practical terms, how will it guarantee the full geographical coverage of this action, given that not all the Member States will have accredited financial intermediaries?
- How, and on the basis of which criteria, will the Commission and the European Investment Fund (EIF) select the countries that will have accredited financial intermediaries for this action?

The Commission is also asked to detail the timetable and the funds planned for this financial facility for the 2016-2020 period.