

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3465/06  
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to the Commission

Subject: Impact of structural policies on the reduction of regional disparities in the field of scientific research, technological development and innovation (R&D+i)

During the forthcoming 2007-2013 financial-perspective period the Structural Funds will be employed primarily for the purpose of achieving the Lisbon Strategy objectives and, in particular, of promoting R&D+i. In a recent report produced by a group of experts set up by the Commission and chaired by a former Finnish President - Mr Aho - it is proposed that at least 20% of the Structural Funds should be allocated to R&D+i.

1. What are the Commission's forecasts regarding the amount of Structural Fund money which will be allocated to R&D+i in the new period?
2. Has the Commission assessed the impact which the Structural Funds will have on reducing the R&D+i gap?
3. Have quantitative R&D+i targets been set for the EU regions?