

**Question for written answer E-001529/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Alajos Mészáros (PPE)

Subject: Provision of financial assistance for decommissioning the Jaslovské Bohunice nuclear power plant

In the context of the negotiations for accession to the European Union, Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia undertook to close and subsequently decommission some of the nuclear power plants operating in their countries. In the case of Slovakia, this concerns reactor units 1 and 2 at the Jaslovské Bohunice V1 nuclear power plant.

Given the exceptional burden imposed by early closure, the European Union made the commitment to provide financial assistance for decommissioning. This is why it has earmarked EUR 2 847.8 million in financial assistance for this purpose until the end of 2013 (EUR 1 367 million for Lithuania, EUR 613 million for Slovakia and EUR 867.8 million for Bulgaria).

During the preparations for the 2014–2020 financial framework, Slovakia has requested additional financial resources. Based on the Commission's report entitled 'A budget for Europe 2020', EUR 553 million has been allocated to the three Member States. The amount earmarked for Slovakia from this envelope is EUR 115 million, which is definitely not sufficient to cover the decommissioning costs, as the final costs will amount to EUR 1 146 million. In view of the inadequate financial situation of the Slovak National Nuclear Fund, further assistance is required. This is why the amount of financial assistance should be increased to EUR 300 million.

- What method is the Commission using in its proposal¹ for distributing the financial assistance among the three Member States?
- Why has only EUR 553 million been earmarked for this purpose from the budget for the period 2014–2020?
- Why has the financial assistance for Slovakia and Lithuania been specified until 2017 if the decommissioning work lasts until 2020?

¹ Proposal for a Council Regulation on Union support for the nuclear decommissioning assistance programmes in Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia (COM (2011)0783 final)