

**Question for written answer E-012900/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Auke Zijlstra (NI) and Lucas Hartong (NI)

Subject: More money for Cyprus

The Commission has proposed to mobilise the flexibility instrument to provide a sum of EUR 78 380 000 in order to complement the financing of the Cypriot Structural Funds programmes for the financial year 2014. However, the proposal also states that the additional allocation from the Structural Funds to Cyprus for the year 2014 will amount to EUR 100 000 000, while the draft report of Parliament's Committee on Budgets states that EUR 89 000 000 will be used for to finance the Cypriot Structural Funds programmes.

In the light of this:

1. Can the Commission clarify how much money is set to fund next year's Cypriot Structural Funds programmes?
2. Does the Commission agree that such a mobilisation equates to an additional bailout for Cyprus?
3. Can the Commission clarify why such an additional envelope has been allocated to Cyprus? Is it related to the economic consequences of the banking crisis in the country?
4. If so, does the Commission think such a mobilisation is fully in line with Article 174 of the Treaty, which establishes that the cohesion policy of the Union will aim to reduce disparities between the levels of development of the various regions? Why?
5. Does the Commission not agree that creditor Member States are being forced to pay an additional tranche for the Cypriot bailout in the form of additional funding for the Structural Funds?