

**Question for written answer E-004338/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**María Irigoyen Pérez (S&D)**

Subject: EU aid for fake training courses

A suspected racket involving the fraudulent use of public funds to subsidise training courses was recently uncovered in Madrid (in the 'Aneri' case). According to the latest information, over EUR 16 million has been embezzled.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time that fake students have been signed up to EU-funded training courses. A number of serious irregularities which occurred between 2005 and 2007 were also disclosed in a report compiled by the Madrid Chamber of Accounts.

Recent information suggests that some of the money taken by the consultancy network accused of the suspected racket might have come from the European Social Fund (ESF).

Can the Commission say whether it is going to investigate the claims that the organisation concerned has made use of EU funding? Will the Commission stop the payments if the alleged problems are confirmed?

Does the Commission believe that an urgent review of control systems should be carried out to ensure that ESF funding is reaching the intended recipients?