Question for written answer E-001791/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Reimer Böge (PPE)

Subject: EU budget for the internationalisation of SMEs

As part of its support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) the Commission supports various initiatives to internationalise SMEs. The provision of information via the Enterprise Europe Network and the Market Access Database are, for example, just as much part of this as providing one-off subsidies for multisectoral economic delegations and trade fairs or operating EU Business Centres in Asia.

As the funding is provided by way of various programmes, different Commission Directorates are responsible for management. As regards the allocation of measures to the various programmes, no overall subsidy amounts can be extracted from the EU budget.

- 1. What was the total amount of EU budget funds spent on the internationalisation of SMEs (broken down by programme and measures) in the budget year 2014?
- 2. How does the Commission expect this expenditure to evolve in the context of the current financial framework between now and 2020? Where no information can be given about individual items, does the Commission expect the current level of expenditure to remain the same, reduce or increase?
- 3. What funding is to be given to the EU Business Centres in Asia once the ICI+ funding ends?

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