

**Question for written answer E-002224/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jill Evans (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Creative Europe

According to the new system for scoring potential projects submitted to the Creative Europe sub-programme, productions from the UK will not receive automatic points unless the project submitted is a co-production or for a youth audience specifically. As a multinational, multilingual and highly unequal state, this is problematic.

The UK is classed as a 'high production capacity country'. This means applications from anywhere in the UK are excluded from additional points for location or if the project is in a less-used language. Wales is bilingual – both Welsh and English are spoken there – and much of the nation qualifies for the top tier of Structural Funds.

Consequently, many projects in Wales do not qualify for Creative Europe opportunities, despite showing great enthusiasm for the programme. The fact that many of these projects are in Welsh – one of Europe's oldest languages, and a minority language in need of promotion and protection – makes the situation even more disappointing.

The rules must reflect better the economic development profile of the area in which the project is located, as well as linguistic diversity.

Will the Commission rethink these rules, which make things much more difficult for Welsh and Welsh-language submissions?

Why was the use of less-used languages not added as a factor in the new rules, and will the Commission consider this in the future?