

**Question for written answer E-008878/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso (PPE) and Mariya Gabriel (PPE)

Subject: Libya and cross-border cooperation in the Mediterranean

Cross-border cooperation in the Mediterranean (CBC-Med) is part of the new European Neighbourhood Policy and of its financing instrument for the 2014-2020 period.

The Commission has financed activities in the Mediterranean through this instrument in the past and is forecasting activities to be financed for 2017-2020.

The political situation in Libya to date has not allowed Libya to be included in this initiative, but Libyan local authorities have now been elected, are currently functioning and should therefore be an active part of the CBC-Med programme as regards assuring the flow of financial means for local development and stabilisation.

Can the Commission explain the reasons why Libyan local authorities are not included in the CBC-Med programme despite Libyan authorities being eligible for it?

Taking into account that local authorities in Libya need financial support to implement projects potentially carried within the CBC-Med, can the Commission provide assurances that the share of the budget for Libyan local authorities is earmarked in the general budget of the CBC-Med and is allocated without further delay?