

Question for written answer E-000683/2019
to the Commission
Rule 130
Laura Ferrara (EFDD)

Subject: EU funding disbursed and programmed for 'SPRINT' centres in Calabria

'SPRINT' centres are regional offices for internationalisation, established by CIPE Decision No 91/2000 to promote the internationalisation of the business system.

The Calabria Region, too, has set up a 'SPRINT' centre, financed by own resources and by the Ministry of Economic Development.

On 30 January 2019, in a question requiring an immediate response tabled in Committee X of the Italian Chamber of Deputies by MPs Orrico and Vallasca, the Ministry of Economic Development clarified that it had financed the 'SPRINT' centres under regional programming agreements with regard to staff promotion and training expenses, while the running costs were borne by the regions.

As regards the resources of the Calabria Region, the Ministry specified that since 2011, SPRINT Calabria activities had been entirely funded by the region which, as far as the Ministry was aware, had used specific ERDF resources for that purpose under the 2007-2013 regional operational programme and, at present, under the 2014-2020 EU funding programme.

Today, the Calabria 'SPRINT' centre appears to be non-operational, as evident from the sites mentioned on page 9 of the Services Charter as being among its tools¹.

Can the Commission therefore, with specific reference to 'SPRINT' Calabria:

- provide details of the funds disbursed in the 2007-2013 programming period;
- provide details of the funds set aside or disbursed in the 2014-2020 programming period;
- say whether it intends to ascertain whether the funding disbursed has achieved the intended purpose?

¹ <https://bit.ly/2HSQYnO>; www.sprintcalabria.it; www.calabriainternazionale.it