

**Question for written answer E-000062/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Risk of automatic decommitment in the use of the European Structural and Investment Funds

Automatic decommitment is the loss of EU credit committed to a programme that has not been claimed within the timeframe stipulated. In the context of the European Structural Funds, while it was possible to contain delays in 2018 for certain programmes, this is not often the case. Now, the period after which automatic decommitment occurs has been reduced from three to two years.

In France, the change of managing authority – the State has passed the baton to the regions – has been accompanied by a drop in the performance of European funds owing to a lack of skills, experience and resources in the regions, which, at the same time, have had to merge. European programmes have suffered as a result.

The French Court of Auditors reported these shortcomings in an official report in May 2019.

1. Does the Commission intend to strictly limit the timeframe for automatic decommitment to two years?
2. Given the difficulties experienced by the regions, does the Commission plan to compensate for potential losses?