

**Question for written answer E-000063/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Using the performance reserve in the management of the European Structural and Investment Funds

European funds, including the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund, finance a number of programmes or 'priorities' in Europe. In 2019, there were 70 programmes in France, or 270 performance frameworks each comprising between two and eight indicators – a total of 1 800 indicators. As a result, it is not easy to judge how these programmes perform.

A significant proportion of funding allocated to projects is granted in the form of a performance reserve, payment of which depends on a number of objectives being met. This reserve is only allocated to programmes and priorities that have reached their intermediate values, as defined in the partnership agreement, and can amount to 6% of the funding allocated.

In France, the General Commission for Territorial Equality, when questioned about the risks of losing the performance reserve for the programmes, declared to the French Court of Auditors in May 2019 that it had no available figures on this matter.

Is the Commission able to say what losses have been sustained throughout the EU as a result of lost performance reserves and what it intends to do to improve the situation?