

**Question for written answer E-001877/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Eva Kaili (S&D)

Subject: Royalties on commercial patents for products and services financed by EU research funding

The European Union is the largest contributor to research funding in Europe, supporting important research projects with long-term perspectives that the commercial market cannot fund. Many of the products and services resulting from research projects funded by the EU are not used at all after delivery. Others are granted non-commercial patents and some are even granted commercial patents and made available for purchase. However, it is not clear if the EU receives royalties from profitable commercialised products.

The European Union could strengthen its capacity to fund pioneering research activities if it received royalties on successful products resulting from the projects it funds.

I would therefore like to ask the Commission:

1. if it has a list of successful commercial patents for products and services that EU funding helped to create, and what their market value is;
2. if it appropriates some of the revenue from the patented products and services it funds in the form of royalties (or any other form)?
3. if not, whether it would consider setting up an agency to help scientists to commercialise the results of their studies, for example through the European Research Council, and make sure the EU receives royalties so that it can keep funding new research or at least measure the value generated by EU funding?