

**Question for written answer E-006381/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Robert Biedroń (S&D)

Subject: EU funding under the Regional Operational Programme and funding allocated by the Polish Government

On 18 November, Poland's Minister of Finance, Funds and Regional Policy informed the Marshal of Mazowieckie Province in writing that EU funding allocated until now under the Regional Operational Programme by the Mazowieckie authorities to Warsaw and surrounding districts would be transferred to funds allocated centrally by the Government. In practice, this means cutting off the capital and the surrounding districts from EU funding for much-needed investments, such as in cycle paths, thermal renovation of buildings, expansion of the sewage system, replacement of coal furnaces, building nursery schools and upgrading playgrounds. To date, funding under the Regional Operational Programme has accounted for around 30% of investment spending by local authorities. Without it, many investments will be stopped. Support under national programmes such as POIR, POWER and POPC to which these funds are to be transferred does not cover this type of investment. The Minister's decision is contrary to the principles of subsidiarity, sustainable development, stability and community building.

Please could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is the Commission aware of the action being taken by the Polish Government in this regard?
2. Are such measures compatible with the rules governing the management of funds intended for allocation under the Regional Operational Programme?
3. Does the Commission intend to take action to preserve funding under the Regional Operational Programme for the city of Warsaw?