

**Question for written answer E-002963/2021**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Sara Cerdas (S&D)**

Subject: Digital cohesion and 5G in the outermost regions

In 2016 the Commission enshrined rollout of the fifth-generation mobile data network, forecasting that by 2020 there would be 5G throughout the European Union (EU). This is, however, taking longer than expected.

Nonetheless, while 5G is on the agenda in some places, in other more remote locations such as Portugal's outermost regions in Portugal, certain areas lack even the most basic network/data coverage.

1. How will the Commission ensure digital cohesion in Europe's various regions, particularly the outermost regions, and fill in the gaps and remedy the inequalities in access between large cities with 5G and others that still have no data network coverage?
2. What investments are planned for the outermost regions to fill in gaps in network and data coverage, and thus help them attract companies, young people and workers and convince them to settle there, thereby boosting these regions' development and contributing to territorial cohesion?