

**Question for written answer E-003169/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Take-up of EU funding by Romania

Take-up of EU funding, whether it be cohesion funding, regional development funding or appropriations under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), is proving to be a problem for Romania.

This stems from administrative shortcomings, creating a vicious circle, as much of the funding in question is intended to increase administrative efficiency when it comes to the creation of institutions that are stable and predictable, but also sufficiently flexible (Thematic Objective 11 of Regional Policy). Without technical support, it is not possible for an administration to obtain the necessary financial assistance to boost its efficiency sufficiently to ensure take-up of all EU funding.

In 2020, Romania signed an agreement with the EIB for the provision of technical assistance to the Ministry of European Funds, the Intermediate Transport Body within the Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Communications and the beneficiaries of the Large Infrastructure Operational Programme for the period 2020-2023.

Given that it is in the interest of both the Member State and the European Union for this funding to be spent efficiently:

What urgent additional support can the Commission give to Romania to help ensure the efficient take-up of EU funding, especially under the NRRP in the post-COVID-19 recovery period?