

**Question for written answer E-002608/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Laura Ferrara (NI)

Subject: State of implementation of the regional operational programme (ROP) for Calabria 2014-2020

Under the Calabria regional operational programme (ROP) 2014-2020, projects and initiatives with eligible costs in excess of the programme's financial envelope have so far been given the green light. To date, however, that figure does not match expenditure certified with the Commission. A total programme allocation of EUR 2 379 million (later reduced to EUR 2 260 million) would correspond to the certified expenditure, as at 20 June 2022, of EUR 1 247 million*. Thus, less than a year and a half after the closure of programming, despite the reduction in the programme's budget and despite the considerable flexibility granted in the restructuring of EU funds with a view to addressing the COVID-19 crisis, it appears that more than EUR 1 billion has yet to be certified with the Commission. Specifically, there seem to be particular critical problems in ESF spending under Priority Axes 9 and 10.

In the light of the above, and in view of the answers already provided to question E-005083/2021:

1. Have the risks associated with the implementation of specific thematic objectives been corrected, and if so, how?
2. Has the managing authority put forward a proposal to ensure that all resources are fully absorbed by the end of 2023, in line with the strategies and priorities of the programme and the partnership agreement?
3. How much do the financial corrections that have so far been applied to the 2014-2020 programming period for Calabria amount to?