

**Question for written answer E-000656/2023/rev.1**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Sara Cerdas (S&D)**

Subject: EU cohesion policy and the digital transition

The purpose of cohesion policy is to improve economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union. In addition to addressing imbalances between countries and regions, it is designed to implement the EU's political priorities, with a particular focus on the green and digital transitions. Bearing in mind the potential offered by artificial intelligence (AI), the concrete risks AI poses, and the commitment to the digital transition:

1. In the Commission's opinion, how does the EU's current cohesion policy model enable smart city strategies to be developed?
2. Is the Commission considering stepping up its commitment to digital innovation centres in order to support local and urban authorities implement effective AI and smart city strategies?
3. What is the Commission doing to promote AI in rural areas?

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