

**Question for written answer E-003368/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Thierry Mariani (ID)

Subject: Assessment of the debts forgiven by the European Union

According to the European Court of Auditors' report on expenditure in 2022: 'The EU budget's total exposure to potential future obligations was EUR 248.3 billion by the end of 2022 (up from EUR 204.9 billion in 2021). Part of the increase is due to the EU's financial assistance to Ukraine, which more than doubled in 2022 compared to 2021 (EUR 16 billion, compared to EUR 7 billion). The auditors note that the approval of an additional EUR 18 billion at the end of last year will significantly increase this exposure for future EU budgets.'¹

The Union grants loans to third countries. However, the instability of the financial markets, inflation and the unpredictable global situation mean that such financial exposure is likely to have a significant impact on the financial future of the Union and the Member States.

1. Can the Commission specify the amounts involved and possible beneficiaries of debt relief from the EU to third countries over the last five years?
2. How much has the EU loaned to third countries over the last five years?
3. How has the solvency of the third countries receiving EU loans evolved over the last five years?

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¹ <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/news/NEWS-AR-2022>