

**Question for written answer E-000094/2024/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Carlos Coelho (PPE), José Manuel Fernandes (PPE), Paulo Rangel (PPE), Maria da Graça Carvalho (PPE), Lúcia Pereira (PPE), Cláudia Monteiro de Aguiar (PPE)

Subject: Implementation of EU funds in Portugal

The Portuguese Court of Auditors has raised serious concerns about how efficiently and effectively the Portuguese Government has implemented EU funds. The Court notes that, at the end of 2022, EUR 353.9 million had been received from a budget allocation totalling some EUR 24 billion.

In view of the above:

1. The Portuguese Court of Auditors' concerns relate to the early implementation of funds and to shortcomings and inconsistencies in accounting records and monitoring. In the light of these concerns, will the Commission draw up an action plan or review to ensure funds are used properly and efficiently in Portugal?
2. The Court of Auditors notes repeated delays in the payment of traditional own resources to the Commission, with additional costs in interest totalling approximately EUR 45 million over 10 years. Is the Commission aware of any attempts by the Portuguese Government to address those delays and what measures does it recommend be taken to ensure those payments are made efficiently in future to prevent similar financial losses?
3. Can the Commission publish data on Portugal's implementation of EU funds up to 31 December 2023, broken down by funding programme?

Submitted: 11.1.2024