

**Question for written answer E-000507/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU funding

For those looking to navigate through the complicated world of EU funding, dozens of university degrees such as a 'Masters in EU Project Design and Management' and four-semester courses with tuition fees of up to EUR 8 000 are now being offered across the EU. Furthermore, consultancy groups like EY, PwC, KPMG and Deloitte and Roche, which also like to employ retired Commission officials, and hundreds of small companies on the 'European Register of EU Project Designers', advertise their services to help people apply for EU funding in return for success fees.

1. When and how will the Commission make it simpler to apply for funding so that even ordinary mortals, like university lecturers, farmers, regional officials or entrepreneurs, can complete the process themselves within 48 hours and stand a chance of success?
2. How much do applicants end up spending per application and per funding year because of the Commission's hyper-complex application and reporting obligations, including the processing fees and the success fees charged by consultants?

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