

**Question for written answer E-000510/2024  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Jorge Buxadé Villalba (ECR)**

**Subject:** Failed policies ruining the Canary Islands

According to the European Parliament study on 'Cohesion policy in the outermost regions' published in January 2024<sup>1</sup>, the Canary Islands is the region that has experienced the sharpest decline in per capita GDP since 2001, dropping more than 20 %.

According to the study, in 2000, it was the outermost region whose per capita GDP was closest to the EU average (97 %). Since its 'staggering decline', it has been overtaken by Martinique, Madeira, the Azores and Guadeloupe.

In view of this study, I would ask the following questions:

1. The Commission's regional GDP data show that the fall in per capita GDP in the Canary Islands has been directly affected by the influx of 211 000 new residents into the region, which accounts for 40 % of the population growth, according to the data from the Government of the Canary Islands. Can the Commission explain where the other 60 % comes from?
2. Why has the Canary Islands received less cohesion funding per person than all of the other outermost regions, for both the 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 periods?
3. The Canary Islands were allocated EUR 402 million from the European Social Fund for the period 2014-2020. Why has only 35 % of this been used?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2024/747282/IPOL\\_STU\(2024\)747282\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2024/747282/IPOL_STU(2024)747282_EN.pdf)