Priority question for written answer P-000691/2021 to the Commission

Rule 138 Clara Aguilera (S&D)

Subject: Implementation of European Rural Development Funds in Andalusia

For 2020 – once the n+3 rule in respect of the year 2017 has been applied – the Autonomous Community of Andalusia has yet to implement EUR 28 003 839.82 of European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) financing. This significant amount of unspent funds is at risk of being lost under the financial provisions in force.

The Andalusian Government hopes to avoid losing the funds on the basis of a report that it is going to submit to the Commission that justifies its inaction in those three years on the grounds of 'force majeure'.

If, in the best possible outcome, the more than EUR 28 million that are now at risk are not classified as 'de-committed', does the Commission believe that it is possible to implement the EAFRD funds from the transitional period and the Recovery Instrument programme for Rural Development, expected to be distributed in 2021 and 2022, in addition to the EUR 28 million, or will that support for rural development in Andalusia be lost permanently?

Is there any other financing that has yet to be spent in Andalusia?