

**Priority question for written answer P-000757/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Nils Torvalds (Renew)

Subject: Local and regional self-government in connection with EU programmes

There are self-governing areas and regions in EU Member States. Article 4(2) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) states that the Union must respect the equality of Member States before the Treaties as well as their national identities, inherent in their fundamental structures, political and constitutional, inclusive of regional and local self-government.

Several EU programmes, such as the Common Agricultural Policy and the Common Fisheries Policy, previously made provision for regional plans, which were used by Member States with legislative autonomy and competence in relevant areas. For the new programming periods, however, a single national plan is required. Local or regional powers are thus being indirectly transferred to Member State level on the basis of a decision taken at EU level.

1. What is the Commission doing to ensure compliance with the subsidiarity principle and with Article 4(2) TEU?
2. How will the Commission ensure in future that various demands for a single national solution or plan do not conflict with local and regional self-government in EU Member States?
3. Why is the Commission increasingly proposing in its directives that a single national solution or plan is needed for the implementation of EU common programmes?