

**Priority question for written answer P-000993/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: New CARE proposal

The Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative and the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative Plus have proven to be powerful instruments for regions to overcome the sanitary, social and economic challenges linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, we are now faced with a terrible war at our borders that will require strong European support to accommodate an unprecedented refugee influx at the borders, and to face supply problems and rising energy prices that will affect European businesses and families alike.

While the Cohesion's Action for Refugees in Europe (CARE) proposal is a good first step, we consider that it might not be sufficient to meet the needs of neighbouring European regions and that a new proposal might be necessary.

In this context:

1. Does the Commission consider that the consequences of the crisis can be tackled with the unassigned funds from 2014-2020, taking into account the absorption rates of neighbouring Member States and the magnitude of the crisis?
2. Does the Commission plan to put forward a new CARE proposal for the 2021-2027 period, including 100 % financing rate, direct support to SMEs suffering the direct and indirect consequences of the war and COVID-related projects, decreased thematic concentration and increased flexibility for the 2021-2027 period?