

**Priority question for written answer P-000400/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Lukas Mandl (PPE)

Subject: Legislative process of the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans

In November 2023, the Commission presented the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans, worth EUR 6 billion. This new facility could be a 'game changer' for the six Western Balkan countries, as it has the potential to double the size of regional economies in the next decade. This growth plan comes at a time when the EU needs to give the Western Balkans a credible perspective towards joining the EU more than ever.

1. How is the Commission ensuring that the negotiation process is swift and that the plan will be adopted as soon as possible?
2. Is the Commission committed to finishing trilogue negotiations on this growth plan during the current legislative term?
3. In the event that interinstitutional negotiations only finish after the cut-off date for conclusive trilogues, how will the Commission make sure that it does not lose credibility with the six Western Balkans countries?

Submitted: 7.2.2024