

**Question for written answer E-015258/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Frédérique Ries (ALDE)**

Subject: Assessment of the first year of the Juncker Plan

The new Commission has made its major EU investment plan, known as the 'Juncker Fund', its priority for boosting growth and employment in the European Union. This also constitutes a new approach to funding the EU economy. Launched with core funding of EUR 21 billion, which should enable the European Investment Bank to borrow EUR 63 billion to finance high-risk investment projects, the Fund has just celebrated its first birthday. With an ambitious goal for the end of 2017: to mobilise EUR 315 billion.

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the Fund's first year in operation, especially as regards its goal of drawing in private investors, who are not very inclined to invest massively in the EU in the current political and economic climate?
2. Does it share the view that the Fund is not targeted at supporting as a priority public projects that cannot be funded by national budgets?
3. Given the plan's ambitions, is the Commission planning to open the Juncker Fund up to private investors outside the EU's borders who are interested in the innovative and profitable aspect of the EU projects that have been chosen – in the energy sector for instance, which is already benefiting from over EUR 2.3 billion in commitments?