

**Question for written answer E-014977/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Andrey Novakov (PPE)

Subject: Improving Member States' participation and success rates vis-à-vis Horizon 2020

The EU institutions negotiated an 11.6 % budget increase for the EU's flagship programme Horizon 2020 in the 2016 EU budget.

Back in June 2015 there were indications of increased competition for funding from the EUR 80 billion programme. The strongest Member States in terms of application and success rates are the UK, Germany, France, Luxembourg, Spain and Italy.

I truly appreciate the fact that evaluations provide more feedback, which is already leading to increased resubmission of proposals. However, there are Member States where Horizon 2020 and its various components lag far behind, which is compromising the impact of investment through the EU budget.

Will the Commission target an improvement in the participation and success rates of poorly performing Member States? What specific measures could the Commission implement in order to improve the statistics? What measures does the Commission recommend that poorly performing Member States implement in order to increase their participation and success?