Question for written answer E-001266/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Financing of innovative solutions in the water sector

Water is one of the most precious and undervalued natural resources, and it is much appreciated that the Commission has firmly placed it on the upcoming agenda[1][2].

One prominent issue in the European water sector is ageing infrastructure, which can cause problems such as frequent leaks and inefficiencies, leading to escalating costs and threatening water security. Municipalities often play a key role in managing water infrastructure. However, they frequently rely on limited budgets that are insufficient to cover the high costs of maintenance, upgrades and technological advancements. Even though modernisation and innovation of infrastructure bring long-term environmental and social benefits, these projects are capital-intensive, requiring significant upfront investments.

1. What measures aimed at boosting innovation and innovative financing solutions does the Commission plan to introduce in its future initiatives?

2. Does the Commission consider boosting innovation and exploring innovative financing solutions as one of the overall future objectives for the water sector?

3. Is the Commission monitoring innovative financing solutions in the water sector, such as bond programmes, that have already been successfully applied in some Member States?

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[1] https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/call-evidence-begins-eu-water-resilience-strategy-2025-02-04_en.
[2] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_269.