

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002433/24
to the Commission
Jaume Asens Llodrà (Verts/ALE)
(6 November 2024)**

Subject: Financing of a bullfight in Huéscar municipality

The promotional poster for a bullfight ⁽¹⁾ that will take place in the municipality of Huéscar includes the logos of programmes such as NextGenerationEU. This would mean that the EU is allocating public funds to support an activity involving animal cruelty, with children aged 6-14 being offered discounted entry to promote the event.

In view of this:

1. What funds has the Commission allocated to this activity?
2. Is the Commission aware that EU funds are being used for bullfighting?
3. What view does the Commission take of subsidised animal abuse with discounts aimed at minors?

Supporter ⁽²⁾

Submitted: 6.11.2024

**Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(3 January 2025)**

In accordance with the procedure of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility ⁽¹⁾, the Commission disburses payments to Spain following a payment request upon completion of the milestones and targets specified in the Council Implementing Decision on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Spain ⁽²⁾.

The Spanish authorities are responsible for the completion of milestones and targets and the Commission assesses the implementation of the relevant measures exclusively against the specific requirements set out in the Council Implementing Decision.

In this specific case, target 218 ('Budget award of plans promoting the sustainability of Tourism at their destination') was part of the fourth payment request.

The target required the publication in the Official Journal of the award to different local authorities with 35% of the funds to account for measures addressing green transition, sustainability and energy efficiency/electromobility at destinations and compliance of the selection criteria with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance ⁽³⁾, but the Council Implementing Decision did not specify the concrete actions to be funded.

When assessing the fulfilment of that target, the Commission verified whether those requirements were met and concluded that this target was satisfactorily fulfilled ⁽⁴⁾.

Member States remain under the obligation to implement their recovery and resilience plans in line with national and EU law.

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/ayuntamientodehuescar/photos/feriadehu%C3%A9scar24-festival-taurino-de-la-paz-%EF%B8%8F-20-general-10-ni%C3%B1os-6-a-14-a%C3%B1os%E2%84%B9%E2%84%B8-p/933868935451543/>

² This question is supported by a Member other than the author: Estrella Galán (The Left)

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021R0241>

⁽²⁾ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-13695-2023-ADD-1-REV-1/en/pdf>

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52021XC0218%2801%29>

⁽⁴⁾ The Commission's preliminary assessment of Spain's fourth payment request of 12 June 2024, page 204 — https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e8b93743-5a80-4c10-9caa-4dabedc95728_en?filename=C_2024_4171_1_EN_annexe_acte_autonome_nlw_part1_v2_1.pdf