

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-000096/26
to the Commission
Ralf Seekatz (PPE)
(13 January 2026)**

Subject: Drawdown and settlement status of EU structural funds in the 2014-2020 funding period — Rhineland-Palatinate programmes

In the 2014-2020 funding period, funds from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) were implemented under shared management through country-specific programmes. The accounts for these programmes are submitted to the Commission through the competent administrative authorities.

1. In the 2014-2020 funding period, what amounts were (1) declared to the Commission, (2) accepted by the Commission and (3) paid out by the Commission with regard to each of the ERDF, ESF and EAFRD programmes in Rhineland-Palatinate, indicating the last accounting reference date available?
2. Have any financial corrections, reductions or objections been made by the Commission in relation to these programmes and, if so, regarding what sums and for what reasons?
3. From the Commission's point of view, were the EU funds allocated to the Federal Republic of Germany for the ERDF, ESF and EAFRD programmes in Rhineland-Palatinate for the 2014-2020 funding period fully drawn down, or have funds from these programmes been definitively lost, and if so, in what amount?

Submitted: 13.1.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(26 February 2026)**

The programme authorities in charge of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) submitted the closure package on 13 February 2026 which the Commission is currently assessing. The expenditure declared and paid out to date for the ERDF amounts to EUR 226 million.

In relation to REACT-EU ⁽¹⁾, the programme authorities reported in the closure package that an amount of EUR 5.9 million could not be spent.

The programme authorities submitted the closure package related to the European Social Fund (ESF) programme in January 2025. Eligible expenditure declared amounted to EUR 136 million, of which EUR 128.9 million was paid by the Commission.

While the ESF allocation was fully absorbed, EUR 7.2 million related to REACT-EU could not be spent and was decommitted at closure.

As the closure process of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) programme has not started yet, the final figures are not available.

The final quarterly expenditure declaration and the closure package are to be submitted in 2026. As of 21 November 2025, declared and paid expenditure amounted to EUR 401 million.

There are no financial corrections regarding the ESF. As the Commission is currently assessing the closure package of the ERDF and as the closure of the EAFRD has not started yet, the Commission is not in a position to provide any information on possible financial corrections at this point.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/react-eu_en.