

Maria João Rodrigues wants "Juncker Fund" at the service of job creation

The European Parliament (EP) adopted this week the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), which aims to mobilize 315,000 million euros of public and private investment over the next three years. The new instrument aims to mobilize additional financing for investment, which fell about 15% in the EU since 2007 due to the economic and financial crisis.

Maria João Rodrigues, who spoke in the plenary debate, recognizes the importance of the new regulation, but considers that "EFSI alone is not enough to overcome the current lack of investment in Europe" safeguarding "the socialist group has managed the Fund has intended to express the promotion of economic and social cohesion. " The MP also stressed that "the Socialists ensured the possibility of countries like Portugal contribute financially to the investment platforms without worsen the budget deficit."

For Socialist MEP, spokesman of the S & D Group in the employment and social affairs commission of the EP, "What is at stake is whether this fund will function as a social and economic convergence engine in Europe, and provide an opportunity for countries They are more difficult or if on the contrary, will strengthen the polarization that now exists in Europe between very competitive economies, others are falling behind. "

The "Plan Juncker," as it became known, was one of the first commitments made by the President of the European Commission to stimulate jobs and growth in Europe, with the participation of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and hopes to mobilize the private sector in several fronts, leading him to invest in projects "higher risk" that otherwise would not find support.