

**Question for written answer E-006156/2014/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Villa Adriana, Tivoli

In 1999, the archaeological complex of Villa Adriana (Tivoli) was added to the list of UNESCO world heritage sites. The definition of the boundaries of the registered property was established by international agreement and included a buffer zone to protect the Villa's archaeological area.

By resolution No 74/2011, the town council of Tivoli approved the urban development plan 'Ponte Lucano district' which was to involve building on over 120 000 cubic metres of land within the 'buffer zone'. The permits obtained from the offices responsible in the Regional Directorate and the Cultural Heritage Department of Lazio disregarded the international commitments entered into by Italy with UNESCO.

At the World Heritage Committee session of 24 June - 6 July 2012, UNESCO stated: 'The World Heritage Committee (...) requests the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre in due time about any major development project planned in the buffer zone of the property, including the housing development at "Comprensorio di Ponte Lucano", for which a Heritage Impact Assessment should be included, in accordance with the (...) Guidelines, before any irreversible commitment is made'.

Can the Commission therefore answer the following questions:

1. How can the EU support Italy in safeguarding its cultural heritage (under Article 167(2) TFEU) and what action could it take, more specifically, in the case of Villa Adriana?
2. Does the Commission consider this building work to be compatible with the protection afforded by the TFEU in relation to the safeguarding of cultural heritage?