Question for written answer E-007672/2014
to the Commission
Rule 130
Lorenzo Fontana (NI)

Subject: Repercussions on the single market arising in Italy from Law No 214/2011

Law No 214 of 2011, promulgated by the Italian Government, imposes an upper expenditure limit of EUR 1 000 for commercial transactions in cash.

In the fruit and vegetable sector, that limit penalises wholesalers in North-East Italy in particular: for purely practical reasons, potential purchasers from markets in Western Europe use cash for payments of goods purchased on markets in that area.

Since:

– EU regulations permit cash imports within the EU up to the value of EUR 12 500;

– the 5% decrease in exports from the markets of Verona and Padua in 2013 is, it is claimed by operators, also linked with the limits imposed by Law 214/2011;

– legislation in this area is a national competence.

Can the Commission state whether it does not consider the aforesaid regulation to constitute a barrier to the creation of a single market, owing to the limitations it sets and the repercussions of this?