

**Question for written answer E-010070/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Infrastructure serving Matera, European Cultural Capital 2019

Matera has been a World Heritage Site since 1993. On 17 October 2014 it was designated European Capital of Culture for 2019. This important title confers rightful recognition of its high artistic and cultural value.

Matera is not served by Italy's national railway lines, but instead only by a short narrow-gauge line.

Road access from the Adriatic and Tyrrhenian coasts is particularly difficult. The infrastructure is in very poor condition and dangerous to users.

One of European Cultural Capital selection criteria is economic and organisational sustainability, in order to have lasting effects on the town's development.

1. Is the Commission aware of the poor state of the infrastructure serving Matera?
2. If so, has the Commission adopted action plans and allocated the necessary funding, specifically to guarantee proper accessibility to the city, so that it can fulfil its European cultural role and function?
3. If not, does the Commission intend to implement specific measures to improve the infrastructure serving Matera, to guarantee better development and exploitation of the town in future?