

**Question for written answer E-006856/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Eridania Sadam SpA

Following the CMO sugar reform in 2006, the Italian company Eridania Sadam SpA presented an application to the Italian Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry Policy for the provision of aid to cover the full cost of converting the Russi sugar refinery in the province of Ravenna. That application envisaged dismantling the production plant, whilst maintaining the storage silos and packaging division.

Eridania proceeded with its plan, until the European Commission objected to the continued operation of the silos and requested partial remuneration – given that the dismantling procedure concerned was itself not full, but only partial.

In its Judgment No 03184/2014, the Italian Council of State rejected Eridania's appeal. In spite of that rejection, however, Maurizio Martina – the Italian Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies – authorised the State Legal Advisory Office to oppose the Commission's decision on corrective financial measures (No 2015/103 of 16 January 2015) before the Court of Justice.

- Can the Commission please reveal whether the pre-litigation phase has already begun, with consequent formal notice and a reasoned opinion?
- Can it state whether Italy's failure to comply with the Commission's decision and its appeal pending before the Court of Justice could lead to infringement proceedings being opened?
- What specific sanctions would Italy incur if the Court were to agree with the Commission's assessment?
- Is the Commission permitted to bring action against individual defaulting parties – such as Eridania Sadam – or may it only act against the Member State at fault?