

**Question for written answer E-007092/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Energy union, the EU and agreements between Italy and Serbia

An agreement governing the construction of hydroelectric and thermal plants, establishment of interconnection networks, and development of renewable energy sources was signed by Italy and Serbia – a member of the Energy Community – in 2009 with the aim of enabling the former to achieve its national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources established by the EU. A second agreement was concluded in 2011 that laid down conditions for the construction of said hydroelectric plants. Reports in a number of Italian newspapers suggest that the country will be paying a total of EUR 155/MWh for Serbia's renewable energy, while the average cost for electricity produced in Italy on the energy exchange market in 2013 was EUR 63/MWh.

Directive 2009/28/EC stipulates that the Commission must receive notification of any agreement made by Member States to procure renewable energy from third countries that will then count towards their national targets.

- Can the Commission please indicate whether the agreement with Serbia was included in Italy's national renewable energy action plan, as provided for by Article 4 of Directive 2009/28/EC?
- Did the Commission receive notification of that agreement from Italy, along with all of the information requested in Article 9 of Directive 2009/28/EC?
- Does the Commission believe that the price of purchasing electricity produced in Serbia is hindering the development of Italy's domestic renewable energy sources and could therefore be considered public aid which distorts or threatens to distort competition, in violation of Article 18 of the Treaty establishing the Energy Community?