

**Question for written answer E-013527/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Massimo Paolucci (S&D)

Subject: Italian law on offshore drilling, and the European Union's strategic energy targets

Internationally, the European Union is the entity most strongly committed to a low-carbon economy based on renewable energy.

By means of Legislative Decree No 133/2014 ('Sblocca Italia'), Italy has given renewed impetus to drilling and prospecting for hydrocarbons offshore within the 12-mile limit and onshore in national territory.

Ten regional councils have announced six referendums on revoking these provisions and other related ones. Concern is felt by local communities regarding hydrocarbon prospecting projects at sea in Abruzzo (Ombrina Mare), Molise, Apulia (Tremiti) and Calabria (Mar Ionio) or in inland areas of Campania (Irpinia and Sannio) and Basilicata.

Does not the Commission consider that facilitating hydrocarbon prospecting could be contrary to the Union's strategic targets in the fields of energy, environment and climate?

Member States were given until July 2015 to transpose Directive 2013/30/EU on safety of offshore oil and gas operations and to notify the Commission of their transposition measures.

Has the Commission checked that Italy's legislation complies with that directive?

In addition, has the Commission checked that the 'Sblocca Italia' legislation and national legislation as a whole comply with Directive 2014/52/EU on environmental impact assessments?

Lastly, what conclusions has the Commission reached?