Question for written answer E-000598/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Daniela Aiuto (EFDD) and Dario Tamburrano (EFDD)

Subject: Unlawful funding for Abruzzo Airport

The Abruzzo regional authorities promised to support development of the region through a programme delivered by Saga SpA, a predominately publically-owned airport services management company, to promote and publicise Abruzzo Airport. The programme received EUR 5 573 000 in funding in 2013.

Article 38 of Law 55/2013 and Article 7 of Law 27/2014 of the Abruzzo Region were declared invalid by the Italian Constitutional Court in its ruling No 249/2014 for having infringed Articles 107 and 108, on State aid, of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union by failing to notify the European Commission.

The funding established by the disputed articles seems incompatible with Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union as it has not been submitted to the Commission for an assessment of its compatibility with the principles of competition in trade between EU Member States.

- 1. Does the Commission know about said ruling?
- 2. Has the Commission conducted any investigations to establish whether Abruzzo Airport received funding that is not consistent with the provisions of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union?
- 3. What tangible measures will the Commission take to penalise the unlawful behaviour described here and prevent similar situations in the future?

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