Question for written answer E-004711/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Lorenzo Fontana (ENF)

Subject: Developments in electronic invoicing in Italy's public administration and their impact on the provisions of Directive 2011/7/EU

It is reported by the CGIA in Mestre – one of the most authoritative Italian centres for research into economic and business problems – that Italy's public administration is lagging far behind in implementing electronic invoicing, to such an extent that it does not even know the exact amount of its outstanding debts to its suppliers. Bearing in mind Eurostat's estimate that the [Italian] public administration has debts of EUR 49 billion, while the total for the whole EU is 154.5 billion, and having regard to the provisions of Directive 2011/7/EU on combating late payment in commercial transactions, which stipulates 30-60 days, whereas the average payment time in Italy is 115 days, can the Commission answer the following questions?

– Will the Commission indicate what stage has been reached in concluding the EU infringement proceedings against Italy which were brought in 2014?

– In the Commission's opinion, can the progress that has been made with electronic invoicing in Italy be regarded as satisfactory and in line with the Commission's targets?