

**Question for written answer E-008519/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Approach to biodegradable garden and park waste (grass clippings and prunings)

Bio-waste is defined in Directive 2008/98/EC. As set out in Article 3(4), biodegradable garden and park waste (grass clippings and prunings) are included in the definition and, by virtue of Article 7, may not be excluded from its scope. In Italy, Legislative Decree 205 of 3 December 2010, transposing the directive, adds to the basic environmental act (Legislative Decree 152/06) and, logically, includes grass clippings and prunings in the definition of bio-waste. Law 154, adopted on 28 July 2016, has amended several existing acts, including Legislative Decree 152/06. In Article 41 it alters the status quo by reclassifying grass clippings and prunings among the materials to be excluded from the definition of waste. Since 25 August 2016, therefore, Italy has been the one country where grass clippings and prunings may not be treated as bio-waste and hence might be used for purposes that Directive 2008/98/EC would prohibit.

Taking the above points into account, does the Commission think it likely, in the light of the directive, that park and garden waste such as grass clippings and prunings could be excluded from the scope of the legislation on waste?

If not, what steps will it take to restore consistency to the rules?