Question for written answer E-003210/2017/rev.1 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Failure to allocate resources and the absence of binding provisions in the 'earthquake

decree' of February 2017

The obligation to conduct seismic vulnerability testing for school buildings was introduced by OPCM (Prime Ministerial Decree) No. 3274 of 2003.

The OPCM did not contain provisions regarding penalties for a non-compliance or make it mandatory to take action if any building was discovered to be at risk. On expiry of the deadline for completion of the checks, only a tiny number of buildings had actually been examined.

In order to remedy these shortcomings, the Decree-Law of 9 February 2017 provides that school buildings located in seismic areas 1 and 2 must be subjected to a vulnerability survey to be completed by 31 August 2018, with compulsory publication of the results. However, no penalties are stipulated for non-compliance with these provisions.

Moreover, the EU has given Italy EUR 1.3bn over the last fifteen years from the Solidarity Fund and, on 21 June 2017, the EU proposed allocating a further EUR 1.2bn from the Solidarity Fund.

In light of this, does the Commission not consider that these significant financial efforts made by the EU towards Italy are undermined by the lack of commitment of Italian legislation which, by also refusing through the Decree-Law of 2017 to introduce penalties for offenders, undermines financial aid from the EU?

Does the Commission consider that the absence of penalties could jeopardise the implementation of the above-mentioned measures, as has already been the case since the OPCM was issued?

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