Question for written answer E-001461/2019 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Italy: ERDF Campania ROP - Suspension of deadline for payment

The audit of the ERDF Regional Operation Programme for Campania performed by the Commission in June revealed significant shortcomings in the functioning of the management and audit system for the programme.

The response of the Region's management authority to that analysis has not been regarded as satisfactory: the auditors consider that many of the shortcomings identified have remained unresolved. By means of a note of 13 December 2018, therefore, the Director-General for Regional Policy suspended payments for the ERDF Campania ROP 2014-2020.

The weaknesses identified relate mainly to the appropriate selection of operations, appropriate checks on management, a reliable data collection, recording and storage system for monitoring purposes, evaluation, financial management, verifications and audits, including links with electronic systems for exchanging data with beneficiaries: this suggests that the Region was not meticulous in performing the checks provided for by EU Regulations.

The crucial point is that, in December, the Region had certified expenditure totalling 651 million (boasting that the target for 2018 had been attained in record time), to avoid losing funds.

- 1. To what extent do the irregularities that have been observed affect the entire certified expenditure?
- 2. In view of the Region's position and the non-conformities identified by the Commission, what is the actual situation now?

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