

EN  
E-002011/2019  
Answer given by Ms Crețu  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(14.6.2019)

Funding from cohesion policy funds is governed by the principle of shared management between the Commission and Member States. As such, responsibility for the selection and implementation of projects lies with the Managing Authorities. To date, the Commission did not receive any requests from the Italian authorities to reallocate ERDF resources for this specific issue. The Italian regions concerned are more developed regions, thus expected to be capable of investing in basic environmental infrastructure such as water treatment or land decontamination with their own means. Neither the Partnership Agreement nor the Operational Programmes of those regions foresee funding on such infrastructure.

The European Union supports Member States in monitoring water contamination with specific legislation. The EU's Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)<sup>1</sup> requires all water bodies to be in good chemical status by 2015. However, the primary responsibility for correctly implementing EU law lies with the Member States. The Commission encourages the Honourable Member to further enquire the matter with the competent authorities, notably the Ministero dell'Ambiente, della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, as well as the Ministero della Salute. In line with the policy approach outlined in the 2016 Communication 'EU Law: Better results through better application'<sup>2</sup>, should the evidence gathered point to a systemic breach of EU law, the Commission will consider further action, as appropriate.

---

<sup>1</sup> Directive 2000/60/EC, OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1–73

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 18, 19.01.2017, p.10