

**Question for written answer P-007137/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Alessia Maria Mosca (S&D) and Luigi Morgano (S&D)**

Subject: New 2014-2020 Italy-Switzerland Interreg programme

Approval of the new Italy-Switzerland Interreg programme for the years 2014 to 2020 could be held up because of the disparity between the amount earmarked by the EU (approximately EUR 100 million) and the sum to be provided by Switzerland (roughly EUR 7 million). The Commission has called for a larger Swiss contribution to match the funding from Italian/EU sources, but Switzerland has rejected this call and its response has been judged to be unacceptable. That being the case, the Italian Government has halted the procedure whereby the 2014-2020 Italy-Switzerland cross-border cooperation programme was to have been submitted to the Commission by 22 September.

Bearing in mind that deadlock – if it were to occur – might prove severely damaging to Lombardy, the one Italian region not involved in any cooperation arrangement apart from the programme with Switzerland (according to some estimates, the region stands to lose about EUR 60 million):

1. Is the Commission aware of any new developments in this matter?
2. Will it endeavour to ensure that the programme in question can be approved without delay and, to that end, exert the appropriate pressure on the Swiss authorities concerned so as to avert a situation which could entail great disadvantages for Lombardy?