

**Question for written answer P-007017/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: European funding for CPL Concordia, a company under investigation on charges of criminal conspiracy

The Region of Lombardy has granted aid for two CPL Concordia projects under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) 2007-2013. The first project concerns updated energy installations at the polytechnic university with a subsidy of almost EUR 4 million, of which 21 % has already been paid. The second EU-funded project, known as 'SIDE', is part of an initiative to step up investment in innovative and technological research and development so as to promote business competitiveness in Lombardy. Funding amounting to over EUR 1.6 million has been authorised but not yet paid. CPL Concordia is a cooperative currently under investigation in connection with rigged procurement procedures in Ischia, being suspected of involvement in a criminal conspiracy arising from payment of bribes by top CPL staff to politicians in order to secure contracts. Magistrates currently investigating the methods employed by CPL Concordia maintain that they have contributed to the creation of a widespread and systematic network of corruption.

In view of this:

1. What action has the Commission taken to ensure that ERDF payments to CPL Concordia are untainted by fraud and corruption?
2. What measures will it take to prevent structural funds being allocated in exchange for favours and increase transparency?
3. Why has funding for the SIDE project not yet been paid out?