

**Question for written answer P-000584/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Lorenzo Fontana (ENF)**

Subject: Application by Italy of the directive concerning late payment by the public authorities

According to data reported by the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance and the National Institute of Statistics, the time scale for the payment of invoices by government departments currently stands at an average of 99 days. 86.6% of the value of the invoices in question is not paid in accordance with the provisions of Directive 2011/7/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on combating late payment in commercial transactions, which sets the deadline for payment at 30 days.

Given the above, can the Commission say:

- whether it has initiated a dialogue with the Italian authorities in order to clarify the above-mentioned non-compliance;
- whether, on average, public authorities in the Member States do actually comply with the provisions of that directive?