

Question for written answer P-002724/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Alberto Cirio (PPE)

Subject: Link between the CAP and the new Consolidated Law concerning state-controlled companies

The common agricultural policy (CAP) provides for, amongst other things, the existence of the LEADER programme (governed by Articles 32, 33, 34 and 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013), managed by local action groups (LAGs) through the implementation of a local development plan.

Therefore, LAGs are a CAP implementing tool; they implement LEADER on a not-for-profit, non-commercial basis, offering a service that is outside the market; they must be structured in such a way as to include the municipalities included in the respective local development plans.

The Consolidated Law concerning state-controlled companies (Legislative Decree 175/2016), though its purpose is to be welcomed, places several restrictions on the participation of municipalities in these companies; one of these is that the investee company must have had an average turnover of at least EUR 1 million over the three previous years (Article 4(6)) and it must have a number of managers that is no higher than the number of employees.

The Consolidated Law in question could therefore pose a threat to the implementation of part of the CAP.

Can the Commission say:

1. whether it is aware of this situation;
2. whether it intends to take action by seeking some kind of coordination with the Italian Government;
3. whether EU law relating to the CAP may be deemed supreme and may supersede national legal arrangements for implementation purposes, and whether municipalities can therefore be partners in LAGs, regardless of the existing Consolidated Law?