

WRITTEN QUESTION E-6332/08  
by Marco Rizzo (GUE/NGL)  
to the Commission

Subject: Mafia assets

In Italy, assets confiscated from the Mafia pursuant to Law No 109/1996 are being administered in a far from transparent manner. In Sicily, and in Palermo in particular, despite a housing emergency involving more than 10 000 families on social housing lists (dating back to 2005), the confiscated assets are being administered and allocated in a manner which smacks more of cronyism than of a serious attempt to meet cultural and social needs. Concern needs to be expressed about both the Italian Government's planned fire sale of confiscated real estate and the punitive measures taken against anyone who draws attention to this state of affairs. A further issue that need to be taken into account in this connection is the sell-off of Palermo City Council real estate, which appears to be being conducted on the basis of far from transparent procedures.

As part of the measures being taken at European level to combat organised crime, does the Commission intend to put forward proposals to regulate the administration of assets confiscated from criminal organisations?