

**Question for written answer E-001741/2012  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Cristiana Muscardini (PPE), Gianluca Susta (S&D), Niccolò Rinaldi (ALDE), Gianni Pittella (S&D) and Roberta Angelilli (PPE)**

Subject: Excessive urban concreting and environmental protection

Can the Commission state whether:

1. it is aware of the shocking report by the FAI (Italian Environment Fund) and the WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) as published in the Italian newspapers *Corriere della Sera* and *La Repubblica*, which states that in just a few years from now, millions of hectares of land will have been replaced by concrete structures. (The survey, which was carried out in 11 Italian regions corresponding to 44 % of the total area of Italy, shows how urban areas have increased by 350 % and how the pace of urbanisation is increasing exponentially);
2. it is aware of the situation in other European countries, since it has already been demonstrated that after a certain degree of urbanisation and concreting the situation becomes irreversible, with subsequent damage to the environment and to health;
3. it intends to carry out an immediate study of the issue, upon which to build a serious policy to preserve the environment and combat uncontrolled and unauthorised concreting?