

**Question for written answer E-003963/2012  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Monitoring the management of EU regional funding

Yet another scandal has emerged regarding the mismanagement of EU regional funding. In this latest case, the Vibo Valentia *Guardia di Finanza* (finance police), in an operation conducted in consultation with the town's Public Prosecutor, charged 63 people and seized funds and goods belonging to persons under investigation for fraud against the European Union. The inquiry revealed that EU funds intended to finance B&Bs were apparently used instead to pay for private house-building and even for gifts of various kinds. Civil servants from the Calabria region, structural surveyors and business proprietors were also investigated in the same inquiry. Given that the case described exposes the loopholes in the inspection system operated by the regions and that the repeated instances of fraud against the Union are harmful to the public coffers and every citizen throughout the EU, can the Commission say whether, in view of current events and the numerous earlier judicial proceedings relating to the management of EU funds, it does not now consider it necessary to lay down more severe and stringent rules governing checks on the use made of regional funding as a whole?