

**Question for written answer E-007840/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Crescenzo Rivellini (PPE), Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris (PPE), Raffaele Baldassarre (PPE) and Barbara Matera (PPE)

Subject: ILVA

A study commissioned by the public prosecutor of Taranto on the environmental impact of the Ilva plant in Taranto has shown that not only are the emissions of particulate matter (P10) from the steelworks a hazard for the health of the workers inside but they also increase cancer mortality and hospitalisation rates throughout the surrounding area. For this reason, the Taranto Court of Appeal has confirmed the seizure of the plant until it is upgraded. This ongoing situation, coupled with the difficulty of regenerating the largest steelworks in Europe, could result in the laying off of some 13 000 workers at Ilva.

Can the Commission therefore answer the following questions:

- Does it not think there is a clear inequality between the technology and resources used over the years by the Italian Government for the modernisation and environmental sustainability of the steelworks in northern Italy, which have never harmed the health and well-being of the local population, and those used at Ilva in Taranto, which until a few years ago was government-owned?
- Does it not agree that a balanced solution needs to be found between the fundamental right to health of the people living in surrounding areas and the right to work of the workers at this factory?
- Does it not agree that the competent national bodies should fully implement the 1996 directive on the establishment of Integrated Environmental Authorisation (IEA), which has been only partially implemented by the Italian Government?
- Does it not think that, further to the work done by the Commission to grant the 'new' Integrated Environmental Authorisation (IEA) to Ilva, not only does a programme to upgrade the plant need to be implemented, but the environment also needs to be reclaimed?
- Does this case not fall within the parameters laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006 establishing the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, according to which, when redundancies have a serious impact on the local economy and employment, the national authorities can apply for funding?