

**Question for written answer E-006708/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Morten Løkkegaard (ALDE)

Subject: Discrimination against language teachers at Italian universities

On 26 June 2001, Italy was found by the European Court of Justice to be discriminating against foreign language lecturers at its universities.

However, no fine was imposed on Italy, because:

1. Italy assured it was going to adhere to the court ruling and end the discrimination, and
2. the Commission promised to follow up on this.

Is the Commission aware that the requested equal treatment of 'linguistic experts' (CELs), formerly known as *lettori*, which grants them, under Italian law 63/2004, as an absolute minimum the same salaries and rights as part-time researchers ('ricercatori a tempo definito'), the lowest category of Italian academic staff, has been extended to ALL foreign language lecturers/CELs at Italian universities (including those who were taken on as CELs and have never been *lettori*) in numerous cassation rulings, explicitly in order to avoid 'unjustified discrimination'?

Is the Commission likewise aware that these Italian cassation rulings have in no way been implemented by Italy, but rather there has been a roll-back, depriving CELs at universities such as Siena, Bergamo, Catania, Salento and Lecce, of a substantial part of their salary, thus repeatedly violating court rulings which have consistently been in favour of CELs?

What action does the Commission intend to take regarding this matter?