

Question for written answer E-005481/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Alberto Cirio (PPE)

Subject: Asbestos in the Montedison premises in Crotone

The asbestos problem which has sadly enveloped the city of Crotone in Italy is well-known. It has been revealed that from the 1960s, asbestos was used in the production premises at Crotone, operated by the industrial group Montedison, later in collaboration with the public chemical plant ENI, which has led to a disastrous environmental situation and an epidemic of illnesses linked to asbestos, such as mesothelioma and lung cancer.

Deaths are expected to reach their peak in the city in 2033, also due to the failure to decontaminate the site and other polluted areas.

Although the local health authority in Crotone informed the competent authorities back in 2003 of the excessive concentrations of heavy metals, including in some plant species being grown next to the site, no emergency decontamination works were undertaken.

Can the Commission say:

1. Whether Italy has been released from its obligations to protect and safeguard workers exposed to asbestos? If not, can it specify the measures it intends to implement or that have already been implemented?
2. What measures it plans to take against Italy to ensure that it implements practical decontamination work on the above sites?