

**Question for written answer E-006040/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Laura Agea (EFDD), Fabio Massimo Castaldo (EFDD) and Isabella Adinolfi (EFDD)

Subject: Failure by Umbria Acque to connect the hamlets of Mengara and Valdichiascio (in Gubbio) to the water supply system

The municipality of Gubbio's water system is currently managed by Umbra Acque. Pursuant to regulations, said company must guarantee a continuous supply of high-quality water to the area for which it is responsible. Access to water is legally recognised as a universal, indivisible and inalienable human right.

Unfortunately, for some time now, this right has not been available in the hamlets of Mengara or Valdichiascio, where there is a gap of approximately 4 km in the water pipes, as well as the gas pipes. This is causing serious hardship for around 60 families, both financially and in terms of quality of life.

This hardship is not due to a temporary fault, but an outright failure in the design of the municipal network.

The situation constitutes a clear breach of the applicable European legislation. Specifically, it breaches the recently recast text of the Drinking Water Directive (currently being finalised). The particular provisions breached are Article 1 and Article 13(1)(a)(a) on the availability of water as a primary good, including the proposals by the Five Star Movement to increase access to water and guarantee the public supply of drinking water, which have been incorporated into the text.

In view of the above, can the Commission state:

1. Was it aware of this situation?
2. Does it plan to carry out checks on the ground to ascertain whether the applicable legislation has been breached?