

**Question for written answer E-006120/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: RDP Basilicata - Measure 19, 'LEADER' local development

The Unione Coltivatori Italiani – UCI (Italian farmers' union) of the Basilicata Region has taken part in the call for the Basilicata RDP for 2014-2020 – Measure 19 – LEADER Local Development, by presenting a Local Development Strategy entitled 'SPAI – SVILUPPO PARTECIPATIVO AREE INTERNE – ANTICA LUCANIA'. In the initial ranking, the Basilicata farmers' union UCI was classified first; however, it was subsequently downgraded to second position when the Regional Government decided to change the LEADER criteria after the list had already been drawn up, thus arbitrarily overturning the result and unlawfully allocating the funds to a different entity. The unlawfulness of this action was also established by a judgment of the Regional Administrative Court (TAR), which upheld the UCI's appeal by redetermining the ranking and re-establishing the original one.

Can the Commission therefore answer the following questions:

- 1) Does it not agree that the Regional Government has unlawfully influenced the allocation of the funding by failing to comply with basic principles of transparency and impartiality in its assessment of the applications and by adopting discriminatory criteria which run counter to the principles of objectivity, fairness and transparency in the management of EU funding?
- 2) What action does the Commission intend to take to ensure that the funding in question is properly and fairly allocated?