

**Question for written answer E-003932/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Massimiliano Salini (PPE)

Subject: Transposition of Directive 2010/63/EU into Italian law

Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes was transposed in a very restrictive way into Italian law through Legislative Decree 26/2014. As from 1 January 2020, the date on which Legislative Decree 26/2014 enters into force, use of animals in research and teaching will be greatly limited. The restrictions are such as to make it difficult to test the efficacy of medicines, which will have serious consequences for the quality of treatments. Furthermore, the restrictions are likely to jeopardise the ability of Italian researchers to take part in EU tenders or obtain EU funding for topics figuring in the ban.

Finally, the situation has still not changed even though the Commission opened an infringement procedure and set a date of February 2017 as the deadline for amending the provisions that are contrary to EU legislation. Nor, so far, has the Commission followed up on the procedure it launched.

In view of this:

How does the Commission plan to move this situation forward, both nationally and at EU level?

What action will it take to ensure that Italian researchers do not find themselves at a disadvantage compared to researchers in other EU countries in which the Directive has been transposed correctly.