Question for written answer E-006577/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Laura Ferrara (NI)

Subject: Readjustment of EU funds for the COVID-19 emergency

In order to respond to the emergency situation caused by COVID-19, the EU has put in place a number of tools and specific actions, launching two packages of measures – CRII and CRII Plus – to overhaul the regulatory framework of the current Structural Funds.

The measures give Member States broad flexibility in mobilising any as yet unused ESI Funds in order to allow for a rapid response to the crisis.

In the light of these measures, many Italian regions, such as Calabria, Emilia-Romagna and Liguria, have made efforts to amend their operational programmes over the past few days, for example.

The changes made, once approved by the Commission, will therefore allow these regions to use funding to the tune of EUR 737 million in order to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects: more specifically, Calabria will receive EUR 500 million, Emilia-Romagna EUR 190 million and Liguria EUR 46.9 million.

In view of the above, and in order to ensure maximum transparency in the use of EU funds, can the Commission clarify:

- 1. the exact amount, to date, of the EU funds which have been reassigned for the COVID-19 emergency in Calabria, Sicily, Basilicata, Apulia, Campania, Molise and Abruzzo;
- how it was possible to reassign EUR 500 million in EU Regional Operational Programme (ROP) funding for Calabria when, in response to question E-002433/2020, the Commission stated that the residual resources not yet allocated amounted to EUR 297 million?