Question for written answer E-003196/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Laura Ferrara (NI)

Subject: Delays in developing inland areas of Calabria

The national and regional strategies for inland areas (the SNAI and the SRAI) set out in Italy's programming for 2014-2020 constitute an important pilot exercise for the country.

As far as Calabria is concerned, delays in setting these strategies in motion have caused the regional executive to put forward a proposed amendment to the operating programme of Italy's Cohesion Social Fund (CSF) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) (in the context of the restructuring of resources in response to coronavirus). As a result, of the four strategies for Calabria initially due to be funded under this operating programme, only the one for the Reventino-Savuto area remains in place.

The managing authority has announced that investment for the remaining strategies will be covered from national funds (2014-2020 Cohesion Social Fund).

This being so, can the Commission answer the following:

- 1. What is the current state of play on the one and only regional strategy for inland areas still being funded?
- 2. Given the serious delays that typically affect programming and work funded by the CSF, and the fact that a large share of the CSF budget will be spent on advance payments for measures under the Recovery and Resilience Plan, does it believe the CSF is the right vehicle to achieve the goals planned in these strategies?