

**Question for written answer E-005587/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Breach of EU COVID Certificate Regulation by the Italian Government

On 14 June 2021 Parliament adopted Regulation (EU) 2021/953 on the digital COVID certificate, which is intended to facilitate free movement during the pandemic and the gradual removal of restrictions imposed by Member States.

The certificate can be obtained in three ways (through vaccination, tests or recovery from COVID). The Regulation provides that Member States should refrain from imposing further restrictions on free movement, such as additional tests or quarantine periods linked to travel, except in real cases of need, which must be demonstrated and announced in advance.

However, having removed tests from the options for obtaining these certificates that are so necessary for many daily activities, the Italian Government has now, as from 16 December, made testing mandatory for entry into Italy from other EU countries, even for people who have a vaccination certificate, and has also decreed a quarantine period for people with a negative test but who have not had the vaccine.

As can be inferred from statements by Commission Vice-President Jourová, this measure has been brought in without any prior notice, in sharp contrast to the spirit of common action inherent in the digital COVID certificate, and therefore most likely in contravention of Regulation (EU) 2021/953.

This being so, can the Commission ascertain whether and how the Italian Government has breached Regulation (EU) 2021/953 through the introduction of these public health restrictions?