

Question for written answer E-000406/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Raffaele Fitto (ECR)

Subject: Tax relief measure to encourage recruitment in southern Italy

Based on the temporary framework for state aid measures, the Italian Government requested and obtained authorisation from the Commission to extend the tax relief measure to encourage the recruitment of under-36-year-olds and unemployed women in southern Italy until 30 June 2022.

Benefiting some 6 million employees, this measure reduces labour costs by 30% and is greatly helping with employment support and the recovery of the labour market.

With the temporary framework's expiry approaching (30 June 2022) and given the fact that the Italian authorities have said that they would like to make this strategic measure structural, can the Commission say:

1. Did the Italian Government submit a proposal to that effect during the negotiations on the 2021-2027 partnership agreement?
2. If so, what is its position on the proposal and under what conditions could it be accepted and implemented?
3. Does it not agree that, with a view to enabling synergies between EU funds, and in the light of the current economic situation, measures of this kind should be promoted – through the European Social Fund, a recalibration of the SURE Fund and national funds – in order to foster job creation?