

**Question for written answer E-002631/2022**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Matteo Adinolfi (ID)**

Subject:     Need for closer monitoring of composting plants in EU countries: the case of S.E.P. Mazzocchio

‘Municipal waste’ means waste generated by household activities and by the management of public areas (e.g. waste from street cleaning and plant waste from parks and gardens).

According to Eurostat statistics on municipal waste generation and management in the EU Member States, some 38 million tonnes of municipal waste is sent for composting and anaerobic digestion each year.

Over the past three years, the biggest increases in this in terms of volume have been in Italy, France and Poland.

It is precisely in Italy that the case of the S.E.P. composting plant in Mazzocchio, near Pontinia, has come to light. According to local mayors and local residents’ associations, that plant is the source of stench arising from:

- unlicensed caterpillar-track vehicles transporting noxious material on public roads;
- unloading operations in which waste hatches are left open and compacters not used;
- sickening smells including around the bio-filter, which is supposed to produce clean air;

The case of the S.E.P. plant in Mazzocchio is not the only one reported in EU countries.

Can the Commission state what steps it plans to take to enjoin Member States to monitor composting plants more rigorously and ensure the health of European citizens living in areas adjacent to such plants?