

**Question for written answer E-003049/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Ignazio Corrao (Verts/ALE)

Subject: NRRP own-consumption limit for financing for solar panels on farms and the risk of curbing renewable energy production

There is a danger that the introduction of a limit on own consumption for financing for solar panels on farms, as laid down in Article 2(3) of the decree implementing the 'Agrisolar Park' measure in Italy's national recovery and resilience plan (NRRP), may hold back further use of renewable energy in farming and in Europe.

This restriction was not present in the original draft version of the decree. It was introduced by the Ministry of Farm, Food and Forestry Policy (the MIPAAF) through Ministerial Decree No 315434 of 15 July 2022¹, after discussions with the Commission².

The Ministerial Decree states that 'the sale of electricity to the network is permitted provided the limit on annual consumption for personal use is observed', a restriction that transforms what was an incentive to produce renewable energy, into a disincentive.

Furthermore, the current method of calculating own consumption not only limits production of solar energy but also penalises and holds back farms that are more efficient energy users and have roofs that could be used to produce solar energy.

Given that the European Union needs to produce renewable energy and energy self-sufficiency:

1. Can the Commission confirm whether current State-aid rules allow aid to be granted to farms for the installation on the roofs of their own production facilities of photovoltaic systems producing more power than is required solely for their own consumption?
2. Can it also confirm whether the limit on own consumption is slowing down production of solar energy?

¹ https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/atto/vediMenuHTML?atto.dataPubblicazioneGazzetta=2022-08-19&atto.codiceRedazionale=22A04739&tipoSerie=serie_generale&tipoVigenza=originario

² Decision C(2022)4660 final of 7 July 2022, through which the Commission authorised the aid scheme in question, stipulating that the Decree and its subsequent amendments / supplements form its legal basis.