

**Question for written answer E-003601/2023**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Piernicola Pedicini** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Public sector wage discrimination proposal

In the Italian Parliament, the Lega – formerly Lega Nord – has called on the government to lay down in law a ‘variable rate’ for salaries for civil servants – particularly in the educational sector – that takes into account the differences in purchasing power in the cities where positions are based. Although that proposal by the Lega is merely an indicative instrument, it is part of a broader plan that is taking shape in Italy, namely that of ‘differentiated autonomy’, a reform of a federalist nature that aims to crystallise and compound the socio-economic disparities between northern and southern Italians.

Given the above:

1. Does the Commission consider that providing for wage differences of this kind would discriminate against workers from southern Italy, formalising an economic incentive which would attract more and more workers to the north, to the detriment of the south, which has already been suffering for decades from the serious problem of depopulation?
2. Does it not also consider that this idea is at odds with the objectives of cohesion policy?

Submitted: 8.12.2023