

**Question for written answer P-002091/2014**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Mario Pirillo (S&D)**

Subject: Terra dei Fuochi (between Naples and Caserta)

On 8 February 2014 the Italian Parliament adopted the decree on environmental emergencies (which entered into force on 9 February 2014) laying down urgent measures not just for the area between Naples and Caserta known as the Terra dei Fuochi (land of fire), but also regarding the Ilva steelworks in Taranto. The decree has established the offence of unlawful burning of waste and earmarked EUR 50 million to be spent in 2014 and 2015 on medical screening of the people living in the two areas concerned. The Italian National Institute of Health, together with Arpa Campania (the Campania regional environmental protection agency), has ascertained that the area (water, soil, and air) is severely contaminated. At the Resit landfill (where waste from the ACNA factory in Cengio has been disposed of illegally), not far from Giugliano in Campania (province of Naples), water samples taken from the monitoring wells have been found to exceed the limit values for mercury, fluorides, total hydrocarbons, 1,2-dichloropropane, trichloroethylene, and tetrachloroethylene, and soil over much of the area has been found to exceed the limit values for arsenic, heavy metals, and organic pollutants. The incidence of tumours has increased in the municipalities with the largest quantities of waste (Acerra, Aversa, Bacoli, Caivano, Castel Volturno, Giugliano in Campania, Marcianise, and Villaricca). Another test site, the Caselle Pisani landfill in Pianura, a suburb of Naples, has been found to contain beryllium, cobalt, copper, tin, zinc, PCBs, PCDDs, and PCDFs, and the groundwater concentrations of aluminium, iron, manganese, and hydrocarbons have risen above the limits. The cancer mortality rate has reached 47%.

1. Does the Commission consider that it has to intervene, given the blatant infringements of European legislation?
2. Is it aware of the serious problems affecting the Terra dei Fuochi?
3. Will it employ the means necessary to protect public health in the areas concerned?