

**Question for written answer E-003077/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Leaks, emergency management and lack of planning in Basilicata (Italy)

Basilicata is experiencing a water crisis affecting over 140 000 citizens and jeopardising public health and the local economy. With the opening of the Camastra floodgates, water from the Basento River, historically contaminated with substances such as PFOS, has entered the water supply. Although this river's resources have been declared drinkable in an emergency, EU regulations require systematic and prolonged monitoring to ensure its quality.

Basilicata also has the highest water leakage rate in Italy (62.1%, source: ISTAT), proof of the serious deficiencies in its infrastructure. The region does not have a water protection plan, a measure which is compulsory under Legislative Decree No152/2006 and the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).

Can the Commission therefore say:

1. Whether it is aware of the state of affairs in Basilicata, including the failure to approve the water protection plan, a compulsory condition of Directive 2000/60/EC?
2. Is drawing water from a river basin without a water protection plan – which was never approved owing to the lack of sampling and monitoring – as required by Directive 2000/60/EC permissible under EU legislation? What consequences might this course of action have for the quality and safety of water intended for human consumption?
3. What technical and financial instruments are available to facilitate urgent infrastructure measures, such as reducing water losses and improving the supply network?

Supporter¹

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