Question for written answer E-003646/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Valentina Palmisano (The Left)

Subject: Support for independent bookshops and reading

In Italy, Law No 15/2020 (‘Provisions for the promotion of and support for reading’) introduced tools intended to help independent bookshops and small bookshop operators, with the aim of safeguarding editorial pluralism, widespread access to reading and more cultural diversity.

However, years after the law came into force, the requisite implementing decrees still have yet to be adopted. That delay is hindering the full application of the measures and has caused economic difficulties for many independent bookstores, which play a fundamental role in the dissemination of culture and the bolstering of social cohesion in local communities.

Through Article 167 TFEU, the EU undertook to fostering cooperation between Member States and supporting the promotion of cultural diversity. What is more, the most recent Regulation (EU) 2021/818, which establishes the Creative Europe programme (2021-2027), highlights the importance of safeguarding editorial pluralism and of promoting access to culture throughout the EU.

In the light of the above:

1. What will the Commission do to ensure that Member States which adopt national measures to that effect actually apply them?

2. Does it not believe that support for these cultural assets, which are essential for editorial diversity and social cohesion among the regions, should be stepped up, including by dint of EU funds and targeted initiatives?

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