

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002903/25
to the Commission
Giuseppe Antoci (The Left)
(15 July 2025)**

Subject: Pending EU infringement proceedings that the Sicily Region is involved in and the EU sanctions it is shouldering

Article 258 TFEU provides for infringement proceedings against a Member State that does not comply with EU legislation.

The cost of the financial penalties imposed by the Court of Justice of the European Union is indirectly borne by citizens and territories, effectively restricting their rights.

Italy is among the Member States with the highest number of open infringement proceedings, a number of which specifically involve the Sicily Region and come with hefty financial sanctions.

However, neither the Sicily Region's official website ⁽¹⁾ nor that of the competent Italian ministry provide a comprehensive and transparent list of the pending EU infringements and sanctions involving Sicily.

The principle of transparency and the citizens' right to information are laid down in the Treaty on European Union (TEU) ⁽²⁾, which provides for the active involvement of civil society in monitoring the implementation of EU law.

Information on infringements and sanctions is crucial in enabling citizens to pressure regional and national institutions to take the measures needed to comply with EU law in a timely manner.

In the light of the above:

1. Could the Commission reveal all the pending infringement proceedings which the Sicily Region is party to, all the sanctions that have already been applied to Italy as well as their total value, which represents a burden for the region?
2. How does the Commission assess the current level of transparency and information provided to citizens about EU infringements and their related sanctions? Does it think that it could take action in order to ensure that this information is shared in a transparent manner?

Submitted: 15.7.2025

**Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(8 January 2026)**

1. The Commission enforces EU laws and upholds the Treaties, as 'guardian of the Treaties'. Infringement procedures are a bilateral process between the Commission and the central government of the Member State concerned. The Member State alone is responsible under Article 258 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union for compliance with the obligations arising under EU law.

There are currently 69 ongoing infringement procedures against Italy. Since 2012, Italy has paid EUR 1.2 billion following judgments of the Court of Justice of the European Union in infringement procedures imposing financial sanctions against Italy ⁽¹⁾.

The Commission publishes press releases on all important decisions in infringement procedures, providing key information on the specific case, including on the involvement of regions, where particularly relevant. Ongoing infringement procedures with recent decisions that involve the region of Sicily concern the implementation of electronic tolling ⁽²⁾ and the management of the spread of invasive alien species ⁽³⁾. In March 2025, the Court of Justice imposed financial sanctions against Italy over urban waste water treatment ⁽⁴⁾.

¹ https://pti.regione.sicilia.it/portal/page/portal/PIR_PORTALE/PIR_LaStrutturaRegionale/PIR_AssEnergia/PIR_Dipartimentodellacquaedeirifiuti/PIR_Areetematiche/PIR_Altrocontenuti/PIR_Procedurediinfrazione.

² Articles 10 and 11 TEU.

⁽¹⁾ Payments relate to ongoing and closed cases, and amounts are definitive only after the exhaustion of all legal remedies.

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_25_2745.

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_25_1241.

⁽⁴⁾ For failing to comply with its collection and treatment obligations for four agglomerations, three of which are in Sicily, cf. Case C-515/23.

2. The Commission ensures a high level of transparency and public information of its enforcement action. Apart from a press package with every infringement cycle, all infringement decisions are published in a public register ⁽⁵⁾, updated in real time. In April 2025, the Commission launched a new Europa webpage ⁽⁶⁾ that offers more user-friendly information on infringement cases, including maps and customisable graphs. As regards financial sanctions, it is the prerogative of the Court of Justice of the European Union to determine and impose them on Member States, based on a request by the Commission. The amounts are published in the Court's judgments. The Commission's public register also makes it possible to search infringement cases in which sanctions have been imposed.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/implementing-eu-law/search-infringement-decisions/?typeOfSearch=byCase&activeCase=true&langCode=EN>.

⁽⁶⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/implementing-eu-law/member-state-infringement-cases/en>.