

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001961/26
to the Commission**

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(12 May 2026)

Subject: Query concerning RRF flexibility and deadlines for social housing energy efficiency projects in the light of the continued availability of funding and unforeseen global shocks

Measure M.7-I.17 of the Italian NRRP ⁽¹⁾ is crucial for helping vulnerable groups living in social housing (ERP). However, the energy and inflationary shocks brought about by the April 2026 Iran-US conflict have caused the price of materials to rise to unaffordable levels, a scenario that falls under the definition of ‘objective circumstances’ laid down in Article 21 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

Though the NRRP deadline for finalising financial agreements is 30 June 2026, the resource tracker managed by the Government-owned Gestore Servizi Energetici (Energy Services Operator) shows that significant sums have yet to be used. Local administrations are grappling with feasibility plans, energy service company tenders and other processes that will not be concluded before the NRRP deadline, potentially costing many ERP projects their funding.

We therefore ask:

1. Given the proven existence of unused NRRP funds, will the Commission recognise that the geopolitical crisis and procedural complexities described above do indeed qualify as ‘objective circumstances’ and grant an 18-month extension in which the remaining M.7-I.17 resources can be claimed?
2. What flexibility instruments will the Commission enact to enable the implementation of price adjustment measures with a view to preventing ERP projects from losing their allocations owing to a lack of funding?
3. Will the Commission ensure that the reallocation of residual NRRP funding towards Italy’s housing plan does not undermine REPowerEU’s energy efficiency objectives and social targets?

Submitted: 12.5.2026

Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(16 July 2026)

Under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) legal framework, Member States must meet all milestones and targets by 31 August 2026, and the Commission must make the final payments by 31 December 2026.

The concept of ‘unused funds’ does not apply under the RRF Regulation ⁽¹⁾ in this context, since RRF support remains strictly subject to the satisfactory fulfilment of the relevant milestones and targets within the applicable deadlines just mentioned.

The implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) remains a shared effort for which the Commission maintains a continuous dialogue with the Italian authorities, including on Measure M.7-I.17.

Where an RRP measure is no longer achievable because of objective circumstances, the Member State concerned may make a reasoned request to the Commission for its amendment or replacement.

In view of the timeline of the RRF, the Commission communicated in its Guidelines on the closure of the RRF ⁽²⁾ that Member States were expected to make any such requests before the end of May 2026.

¹ <https://www.gse.it/servizi-per-te/attuazione-misure-pnrr/efficientamento-edilizia-residenziale>.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/241/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ https://reforms-investments.ec.europa.eu/publications-0/guidelines-member-states-operational-aspects-related-final-phase-and-closure-recovery-and-resilience_en.