

EN
P-004292/2025
Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.12.2025)

Under Article 3(4) of the Waste Framework Directive (WFD)¹, biodegradable garden and park waste are classified as ‘bio-waste’². The Commission considers that grass clippings and prunings from park and garden maintenance fall within this category. The classification as waste ensures traceability and accountability of waste producers and haulers³. According to Article 22(1) of the WFD, bio-waste shall, as of 31 December 2023, either be separated and recycled at source or collected separately and not mixed with other types of waste.

The classification as bio-waste does not prevent the use of grass clippings and prunings from park and garden maintenance for composting or biogas production. This is even encouraged in Article 22(2), letter a) which provides that Member States shall take measures to encourage the recycling, including composting and digestion, of bio-waste in a way that fulfils a high level of environment protection and results in output which meets relevant high-quality standards.

Therefore, with regard to the matter in question, there is no evidence demonstrating Italy’s failure to correctly transpose the WFD or any other EU legislation.

¹ Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives, OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3-30.

² And not as ‘by-products’ as explained in the Commission’s answer to E-002945/24.

³ Notably to prevent the illegal discarding of waste, including dumping in nature or illegally landfilling.