Question for written answer E-015610/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Elly Schlein (S&D)

Subject: Ilva

On 26 September 2013, the Commission launched infringement proceedings against Italy to reduce the environmental impact of the Ilva steelworks in Taranto, the biggest steel plant in Europe.

The Commission has established that Italy does not ensure that IIva, which is under State management, complies with EIA and EU requirements relating to industrial emissions, which has a serious impact on health and the environment. Moreover, Italy is also failing to comply with the Environmental Liability Directive, which lays down the 'polluter pays' principle.

As a result of the continuing emission into the environment of pollutants, for production purposes, Italy is still not complying with European rules, breaching the IPPC Directive and placing the Ilva di Taranto plant outside the law.

Law No 136 also stipulates that IIva may continue to produce only on condition that it carries out 80% of the total number of instructions in the integrated environmental permit. The remaining 20% of the instructions which have not been carried out so far include some of the most important and urgent, such as covering the ore stockyards and reducing diffuse emissions from the coking plant.

In addition, the judiciary has established that Ilva's emissions are having an extremely serious impact on public health.

In the light of the latest ISPRA report and bearing in mind that the evident danger to the health of workers and the public in Taranto posed by the plant is permanent, what action will the Commission take to enforce European environmental directives?

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