

**Question for written answer E-005064/2015/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Aldo Patriciello (PPE)

Subject: Delays in closing down secure psychiatric hospitals, a necessary measure for the protection of human rights

A number of journalistic investigations and parliamentary inquiries have revealed that the respect for human rights in Italy's secure psychiatric hospitals is nothing more than an sham, given the appalling hygienic and sanitary conditions in which detainees have been forced to live for many years.

Under Italian Law No 9 of 17 February 2012, all such establishments were to be closed down by 31 March 2013.

However, the stipulated deadlines have twice been extended, first to April 2014 and then to April 2015 (under the decree-laws of 25 March 2013 and 1 April 2014 respectively).

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say whether comparative studies have been made of the situation in the various Member States and whether any arrangements exist for exchanges of good practice between them?

2 Is it possible to help Member States bring their practices more closely into line with the objective being sought?