



THE MODUS OPERANDI OF ITALY AND THE CARABINIERI CORPS FOR THE REMEDIATION OF LANDFILLS AND CRISIS SOLUTION

EXCHANGE OF ENFORCEMENT PRACTICES TO DRIVE ZERO POLLUTION

February 7, 2023 10.00 – 13.00 AM

European Parliament

room SPAAK 1 c 47 entrance Altiero Spinelli

Esplanade Solidarność 1980 Bruxelles

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09.30 participants' registration

10.00 Opening greetings

- Fabio Massimo CASTALDO, Member of the EP Parliament
- Virginijus SINKEVICIUS, European Commissioner for the Environment
- Gilberto PICHETTO FRATIN, Minister for Environment and Energy Security
- Raffaele FITTO, Minister for European Affairs, Cohesion Policy, Southern Italy and the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR)
- Stefano VERRECCHIA, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the EU
- Antonio MARZO, General of the Army, Commander of the Forestry, Environmental and Agrifood Unit of the Carabinieri Corps.

11.10 speeches

- Veronica MANFREDI, Director, Directorate C, Zero Pollution and Green Cities, Directorate General for Environment, European Commission
- Giuseppe VADALA', Brigadier General, Italian Commissioner for the remediation of non-compliant landfills and the implementation of the actions required to enforce European law
- Massimo CONDINANZI, Coordinator of the Infringement Task Force, Department for European Policies, Presidency of the Council of Ministers
- Ana GARCIA, Presidente dell'IMPEL, Chair of the EU Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law
- Laura BURKE, Director General of the Irish Environmental Protection Agency and member of the EPA Network

12.10

- Stefano LAPORTA, President, Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research
- David GOVONI, President-elect, European Federation of Geologists

12.30

• Laura D'APRILE, Head of Department, Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security

12.45 conclusions

Silvia PAPARELLA, CEO Environmental technological Hub, RemTech Expo, Ferrara Expo

Moderator: Pietro GUSTAMACCHIA, ANSA journalist



In 2017, the Italian Government, established a special *task force* of the Carabinieri Corps to clean up and remediate landfills and to gradually decrease and ultimately eliminate the penalty payment ordered by the Court of Justice of the EU. The task force is made up of 13 Carabinieri and is led by a Brigadier General who was appointed as Government Commissioner. The Government Commissioner is responsible for implementing procedures for the cleanup and remediation of landfills and reaches the set-out goals by coordinating with local (regional and municipal) and central authorities. Meanwhile, the Carabinieri Corps' *task force* works to combat environmental crime and corruption by preventing and reporting illegal activities in the landfill cleanup and remediation sector.

The Carabinieri Corps' modus operandi involves working closely with the regions, municipalities, and regional environmental protection agencies creating a collaborative team effort focused on remediating the local landfill site. A positive process has, thus, been initiated that is leading Italy to clean up and rehabilitate its territories returning them to the population.

The Carabinieri task force and its modus operandi were defined by two different legislative acts which provided for:

- 1) The establishment of a new task force to solve European Union infringement procedures. Decree Law n.111 of 2019 converted into Law n.141 2019, the so-called "Climate Decree", namely, Article 5 and subsequent paragraphs established that whenever there is a need to handle an EU infringement procedure for contaminated landfills, the Commissioner, and his task force of the Carabinieri Corps act to complete the necessary actions and close the infringement procedure.
- 2) The expansion of the Commissioner's scope of action to the remediation of sites not included in infringement procedures. Decree Law n. 152 of 2021 converted with modifications into Law 233/2021 "Urgent provisions for the implementation of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan and for the prevention of Mafia infiltrations". Specifically, article 43 established that to pursue the goals defined by former legislative provisions, the Commissioner's functions and activities can be extended to the cleaning up and remediation of polluted landfill sites currently not included in infringement procedures. It, furthermore, created three sub-Commissioners' posts.

Therefore, the Italian Government, using its powers of substitute intervention, created a specific task force of the Carabinieri Corps to address the emergency of infringement procedures and respond to the needs identified

by the EU. The success of these efforts has been afterwards recognized by the Government which has deemed the task force as capable of effectively implementing processes and solving critical environmental issues in the waste sector.

As a matter of fact, the cleanup and remediation of non-compliant landfills has been identified by the European Commission as an issue of crucial importance not only to close ongoing infringement procedures, but also as a priority action for the implementation of environmental policies in Italy and the EU.

The purpose of this event is to showcase the best practices, the modus operandi and the results achieved by the Carabinieri Corps task force at the European level. The ultimate goal is to share this modus operandi with the aim of contributing to the implementation of European environmental policies such as the Green Deal and the Zero Pollution Strategy which also aim at reducing pollution to levels that are no longer harmful to health and natural ecosystems, within the limits that our planet can withstand, and thus create a toxic-free environment.

