

Acknowledgement of receipt of a multiple complaint on an alleged breach by Italy of EU and Council of Europe rules on non-discrimination and protection of fixed-term workers, notably Article 14 European Convention of Human Rights, Article 20 and 21 EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, and Directives 2000/78, 2006/54 and 1999/70.

Reference number: CHAP (2021)03439

The European Commission has received a large number of complaints about the failure to recognise the employment record of teachers in 'scuole paritarie' (accredited private schools) for the purpose of determining their pay grade when taking up employment in public schools.

The complainants indicate that the Italian national education system consists of state schools and accredited 'scuole paritarie' that is to say fee-paying schools that follow the state school syllabus. Accreditation is granted to non-state schools that apply for it, provided that they meet certain conditions, verified by the State, regarding teacher qualifications for example. While experience acquired in accredited private schools is recognised for the purpose of awarding fixed-term teaching contracts and subsequent employment in state schools, the complainants point out that, under Article 485 of Legislative Decree No 297 of 16 April 1994, the Italian Ministry of Education does not recognise such experience for determination of the pay grades of newly recruited teaching staff, but only experience acquired in state schools or their equivalent.

The Commission has entered these complaints in the central registry of complaints under reference number CHAP(2021)03439. If you wish to submit further information on your complaint you may do so to the contact points listed [here](#). Please quote the above-mentioned reference number.

Given the significant number of complaints it received on this subject, the Commission, with a view to responding swiftly and informing those concerned as well as taking into account potentially wider public interest in the issue raised by the complainants, is also publishing this acknowledgement of receipt on the [dedicated page of the Europa website](#). The complainants will be informed, through the same channel, of the results of the Commission's examination of these complaints and of the follow-up that the Commission may decide to take.

The Commission will consider the complaint in the light of the applicable European Union law and in line with the enforcement priorities set in the [Commission Communication 'EU law: Better Results through Better Application'](#)<sup>1</sup>.

Please note that, should the Commission decide to launch a formal infringement procedure in response to your complaint, the aim of such a procedure is to ensure that Member State laws are compliant with EU law and correctly applied. The submission of a complaint to the Commission may thus not resolve your specific and individual situation. In order to obtain redress, including compensation if warranted, you should take action at national level in the Member State concerned. Submitting a complaint to the Commission does not suspend the time limits for starting legal action under national law. The Commission may also, in the exercise of its discretion, decide not to open

---

<sup>1</sup> C(2016)8600.

formal infringement procedures, even if it considers that a breach of EU law has occurred.

The Commission services will by default treat your complaint in a confidential manner. Only in the event that a complainant opts for non-confidential treatment in the complaint form may the Commission departments disclose the identity and any of the information submitted by that complainant to the authorities of the Member State against which the complaint has been made. The disclosure of complainant's identity by the Commission departments may in some cases be indispensable to the handling of the complaint.

A [specific privacy policy statement](#) applies in relation to the handling of complaints.