



**EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK**  
BANKING SUPERVISION

**Danièle NOUY**

Chair of the Supervisory Board

*COURTESY TRANSLATION*

Mr Angelo Ciocca  
Member of the European Parliament  
European Parliament  
60, rue Wiertz  
B-1047 Brussels

Frankfurt am Main, 14 August 2018

**Re: Your letter (QZ-057)**

Honourable Member of the European Parliament, dear Mr Ciocca,

Thank you for your letter to Mr Mario Draghi, President of the European Central Bank (ECB), which was passed on by Mr Roberto Gualtieri, Chair of the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, accompanied by a cover letter dated 11 July 2018. In your letter you raised a question relating to the seizure of bank accounts. As this topic is related to banking supervision, the President forwarded your letter to me.

In your letter, you refer to the impact that the procedure under Italian law for seizing a debtor's payables held by third parties has on Italian bank account holders, particularly with regard to notification of the debtor. In this context, you highlight that this procedure – which applies to the seizure of bank accounts – combined with the fact that employers are obliged under Italian law to pay salaries by bank transfer is problematic for both account holders and employees in Italy. You therefore asked how the ECB intends to protect the account holders concerned.

While I understand the importance of this question, the issue does not fall within the scope of the supervisory tasks conferred on the ECB. It is a matter of consumer protection rather than of prudential supervision of credit institutions, and it remains the responsibility of the national competent authorities.<sup>1</sup>

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Danièle Nouy

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<sup>1</sup> Recital 28 of Council Regulation (EU) No 1024/2013 of 15 October 2013 conferring specific tasks on the European Central Bank concerning policies relating to the prudential supervision of credit institutions (OJ L 287, 29.10.2013, p. 63).