

**Question for written answer E-006814/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: New filling project in Gibraltar

Pursuing its policy to systematically carry out filling operations to reclaim land from the sea, the Government of Gibraltar recently gave the go-ahead for the 'Western Beach land reclamation and construction of sports facilities' project to fill an area of 73,000 m² destined for leisure and light industrial use.

In light of the above and bearing in mind that the area earmarked for filling – to the north of the airport runway – is situated along the isthmus and is therefore under Spanish sovereignty:

1. What measures will the Commission take to ensure the provisions of Article 7 of Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council are complied with?
2. Does the Commission believe that the systematic filling of an area designated as a Site of Community Importance is a sustainable environmental policy?
3. What preventative measures can the Commission take to prevent the environmental damage that can be expected in such a case, and to ensure that Gibraltar rectifies damage already caused in other areas?