

**Question for written answer E-007069/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Contamination of the Umia-O Grove-Carreirón intertidal complex

Recent studies by the CSIC (Spanish Scientific Research Council) Marine Research Institute and the Galician Natural History Society have shown that the Umia-O Grove-Carreirón intertidal complex, which lies in the Ría de Arousa saline estuary, is contaminated with lead, arsenic, and copper.

This situation is, however, particularly serious given not just the richness of the zone's fish-life and shellfish stocks, but also its ecological importance, reflected in the fact that the zone is listed among the wetlands of international importance (Ramsar wetland), as well as being a special protection area for birds, a site of Community importance, and a Natura 2000 site.

Is the Commission aware of the above situation? What steps will it take to ensure that the environmental richness of this site of Community and international importance is preserved undamaged and protected?