Question for written answer E-008176/2014/rev.1 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Conversion of the E45, a highway in central Italy, into a toll-paying motorway

The E45 Orte-Mestre main rural highway is an arterial road that runs through Umbria in central Italy. The Italian national institutions have decided to use project financing to convert the E45 into a toll-paying motorway.

The work will irreversibly damage the Umbrian landscape, with 140 km of viaducts, 60 km of tunnels, 80 junctions and a building site every 20km. This transformation will undermine the right to free movement of those who travel along the E45 every day to get to work.

In 2010, in a similar case (Case No 2345/06 - Dees v. Hungary), the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg had ruled that Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) had been infringed, owing to the harmful emissions caused by heavy traffic – the same problem that will affect urban roads in Umbria.

- 1. What measures does the Commission intend to take to protect the environment and landscape?
- 2. Is it aware of any EU funding that has been requested or granted for this project?
- 3. If so, does it consider this project to be compatible with the right to the free movement of persons?

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