

**Question for written answer E-000524/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Inácio Faria (ALDE)

Subject: Demolitions in the Ria Formosa financed through Community funds

The demolition of buildings in Ria Formosa in Portugal, begun recently as part of the 'Polis Litoral Ria Formosa' programme, is intended to prevent the ingression of the sea and coastal erosion, to renaturalise these areas and to improve the environment.

These demolitions raise worrying social issues – namely the rehousing of local communities and the withdrawal of economic activities linked to the estuary, such as fishing and collecting shellfish – and environmental issues, notably the construction of infrastructure in a protected area that forms part of the Natura 2000 networks.

The demolition activity taking place under the Polis Litoral Ria Formosa programme receives EU funding, and it has recently been reported that these funds are being reallocated to the construction of hotel facilities or similar.

Can the Commission confirm the accuracy of these reports and state whether, in its opinion, these plans are compatible with the aims of renaturalising the area, promoting natural conservation and biodiversity and upgrading local fisheries?

Does the Commission believe that the demolitions carried out using funds allocated to the Polis programme conflict with this type of future tourism development?