

**Question for written answer E-001396/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Solutions to air pollution in the Greater Barcelona area

Greater Barcelona is Europe's fourth largest urban agglomeration. Directive 1999/30/EC provides a legal framework aimed at controlling the concentration of pollutants in the environment, especially in urban areas. Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe amplifies what previous legislation has stipulated.

The Catalan Regional Government has drawn up an action plan to reduce air pollution in the Greater Barcelona area.

1. Is the Commission thinking of collaborating in some special way with the institutions concerned in order to tackle environmental issues in metropolitan areas and other urban agglomerations?
2. Protecting the environment without reducing competitiveness is one of the fundamental principles governing action by the Commission. Will the Commission promote the introduction of the Eurovignette in Spain in order to develop a more efficient and less polluting road freight system?
3. In regard to this, will the Commission promote the Mediterranean corridor in order to cut emissions, in which road freight plays a large part?