

**Question for written answer E-000045/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Francesc Gambús (PPE)

Subject: Repeated breach of the Water Framework Directive

The Portuguese Minister for the Environment has announced that he will not be attending a meeting with his Spanish counterpart which was to deal, among other issues, with the Albufeira Convention, in response to Spain's unilateral decision to build a nuclear waste storage facility at the Almaraz plant without carrying out a prior assessment of the cross-border environmental impact of such a move. Spain has invoked 'extraordinary urgency' on several occasions, including in the Ebro basin, in order to build facilities with the potential to affect the quality of its water resources without carrying out a corresponding impact assessment. Given that this has been the repeated practice of the Spanish State, will the Commission say:

1. Does it consider that the current Almaraz plant project complies with Community legislation?
2. How does it view the fact that a dam such as that of Biscarrués, which is the subject of an infringement procedure, has been declared an infrastructure of national interest in the relevant river basin management plan?
3. Given that, according to the Portuguese Minister for the Environment, Spain concealed radioactive contamination of the River Tagus in 1986, does it have at its disposal any independent studies on the water quality of Spanish rivers?