Question for written answer E-005406/2018 to the Commission Rule 130 Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Parking dangerous freight trains next to private housing

Numerous documentary and testimonial evidence supports the claim that in the city of Logroño in Spain, trains carrying sulphur dioxide, butadiene and liquid chlorine are often parked beside the Iregua river basin, less than 10 metres from private housing on Calle Tudela and less than 20 metres from a plot of land where the city Council and regional Government of La Rioja plan to build a health centre and a school. The volatility of these products poses a serious threat to human health and the environment.

Each time this type of urban parking is prohibited by Spanish Royal Decree 412/2001, Article 4(2), the Spanish Minister of Public Works and Transport prefers to describe them as 'technical stops', thereby escaping responsibility.

- 1) Is the Commission aware of any similar cases in other European Union countries?
- 2) Has it adopted or does it intend to adopt measures so that the Regulation concerning the international transport of dangerous goods by rail, mentioned in Directive 2008/68/EC, ensures that the parking of trains transporting dangerous goods in urban areas be prohibited?

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