

**Question for written answer E-002668/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Sustainable maritime transport: introduction of cold ironing

On 1 January 2020, the new International Maritime Organisation (IMO) regulations intended to cut the shipping industry's sulphur oxide emissions¹, which are known to be dangerous to human health, will enter into force.

Ferries and ocean liners in particular, both of which are energy intensive and polluting, are under fire because of their dominance, particularly when docked.

Port facilities could contribute to this green revolution by employing a shoreside electrical power system known as 'cold ironing'².

Under that system, ships are able to connect to onshore power sources instead of being forced to keep their engines running.

This would create a clean port system, as some Northern European cities (Gothenburg and Lübeck) and North American west-coast ports (in Vancouver, California and Alaska) have already done³.

Taking into account the Commission's powers with regard to the common transport policy and to tourism policy (Article 4(2)(g) and Titles VI and XXII of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union), does it have a major investment plan for the electrification of port infrastructure?

¹ <http://www.imo.org/en/mediacentre/hottopics/pages/sulphur-2020.aspx>

² <https://www.isemar.fr/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Lindustrie-de-la-croisiere-entre-croissance-et-defis.pdf>

³ https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/rapport_cpt_croisieres_cle0cb482.pdf