

**Question for written answer P-005797/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Monitoring the use of EU funding earmarked for an ITI project in the Mar Menor

The Mar Menor ITI is one of three EU-approved integrated territorial investment (ITI) projects in Spain. Between now and 2020 it is set to receive EUR 45 million from the European Regional Development Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

The ITI, which is classed as a 'strategic project', was approved by the EU with a view to making sure that various investments from EU funds within a given geographical area are implemented coherently across that area.

On 14 June 2016, Pedro Antonio Sánchez, the president of Murcia's regional government, met Regional Policy Commissioner Corina Crețu in Brussels. He emphasised that an increase in EU funding was vital in order for the necessary action to be taken to improve the situation in the Mar Menor and to help promote its resources.

1. Given that EU funding has been allocated to a number of separate local projects in and around the Mar Menor, does the Commission take the view that such funding will help tackle the area's core problem of unsustainable pollution without prior planning and integrated, participatory environmental management?
2. Will the Commission be monitoring and checking the use and purpose of the EUR 45 million in EU funding earmarked for the Mar Menor ITI?