

**Question for written answer E-001218/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Nikos Chrysogelos (Verts/ALE)**

**Subject:** Does European Commission support initiatives such as the recent Planning Framework for Tourism in Greece?

The new Planning Framework for Tourism in Greece<sup>1</sup> was signed on 13 December 2013 by the Government Policy Coordination Committee for Planning and Sustainable Development and has been published in the Government Gazette. It promotes a super-intensive tourism development model, with golf courses and ski trails, and even provides for planning permission to be granted within Natura 2000 areas and on small rocky islets.<sup>2,3</sup> Environmental organisations in Greece, including the WWF<sup>4</sup>, expressed serious reservations regarding the intensive use of natural space, the lack of any load-bearing provisions, the lack of rules for the demolition of buildings erected without planning permission, the lack of a strategic environmental impact study, the threats to coastal zones in breach of Council of State case-law and, of course, construction within Natura 2000 areas and on rocky islets.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. if it considers that the new Planning Framework for Tourism in Greece infringes provisions of Greek and Union legislation? Does it infringe Article 8.2 of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management?<sup>5</sup>
2. if management measures have been adopted for Natura 2000 areas which include criteria for approving large (complex) tourism facilities? To what extent can alterations be tolerated for the purpose of tourist development on islets which are fully integrated into the Natura 2000 network?

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.ypeka.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=389&snj\[524\]=2841&language=el-GR](http://www.ypeka.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=389&snj[524]=2841&language=el-GR).

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.naftemporiki.gr/story/742564>.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.tovima.gr/society/article/?aid=548699>.

<sup>4</sup> <http://politics.wwf.gr/images/stories/political/positions/eidikoplaisiotourismou.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:034:0019:0028:EL:PDF>.