Question for written answer E-001731/2019 to the Commission Rule 130 Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Association funding mining projects that breach EU standards

Through its RawMaterials association, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) currently finances the 'iTARG3T: Innovative targeting & processing of W-Sn-Ta-Li ores: towards EU's self-supply' project (2019-2021). This project proposes using 'modern approaches to obtaining the social license for mining'. Valoriza Minería, a subsidiary of the Sacyr Group, will be participating in the project as a partner.

Valoriza Minería and its subsidiary, Tungsten San Finx, have been the subject of a number of parliamentary questions, including E-004299-16, E-004301-16, E-008989-16, E-009298-16, E-000007-17, E-001604-17 and E-001830-17, in addition to Petition No 0059/2017, all of which drew attention to both companies' systematic failure to observe European environmental and mining waste standards. As Tungsten San Finx had repeatedly failed to consult the public on its plans, document ACCC/C/2017/153 was presented to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee.

- How are EIT funds being used in mining projects such as the San Finx (Galicia), which are currently on hold because the companies in charge of them failed to get environmental permits?
- How much European funding has been granted to EIT, and what amounts are earmarked for each of the Spanish partners in this project?
- What is meant by 'modern approaches to obtaining the social license for mining,' and what are the EIT's links to campaigns that misrepresent the reality of polluting mining activities?

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