Question for written answer E-003282/2019 to the Commission Rule 138 Ignazio Corrao (NI)

Subject: Projected marina and holiday resort on the beach of San Vito Lo Capo in Sicily

On 9 January 2018, a project was submitted to the Municipality of San Vito for the construction of a marina covering a total area of 114.986 m² along the coast and adjacent sea area, the beach being concreted over for the construction of car parks, shopping malls, boutiques, hotels and restaurants.

This would seriously damage the posidonia beds, disrupting the marine ecosystem and accelerating coastal erosion.

Posidonia beds in the Mediterranean are protected under Directive 92/43/EEC. Furthermore, San Vito Lo Capo has been designated as a special protection area for the conservation thereof.

In addition, Directive 2014/89/EU calls for measures to prevent coastal erosion.

To date, the project is awaiting assessment. The Sicily regional authorities have recently adopted measures to encourage the development of marine resorts on the island¹.

In view of this:

Does the Commission consider this project to be in breach of the posidonia conservation and Natura 2000 directives?

What action will it take to protect the Sicilian coast from the construction of marina resorts?