

**Question for written answer E-004571/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

José Ramón Bauzá Díaz (Renew)

Subject: Financial aid for restoration of the Mar Menor

On 14 October 2019 I tabled Question for written answer No E-003263/2019, informing the Commission that urgent action is needed to halt the decline in the state of the Mar Menor, a natural area in the Murcia region that is unique in Europe on account of its biodiversity and natural riches.

The Murcia Regional Government has already started to adopt the financial and legislative measures needed for the lagoon's restoration. However, new infrastructure is also needed to stop eutrophication in the Mar Menor and this will entail significant costs, an investment the Murcia Region is unable to bear on its own.

The Mar Menor is an important area, both ecologically and economically but, nonetheless, Spain's central government has washed its hands of the problem and is not going to offer any financial assistance for construction of this infrastructure.

As this natural area in Murcia is also a European natural area, the EU ought to become actively involved in its restoration.

For this reason, I ask again:

1. What measures is the Commission planning to take in regard to restoring the Mar Menor?
2. What funds will it earmark to support the Regional Government of Murcia in the construction of the infrastructure needed for its restoration?