

**Question for written answer E-000740/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Maria Spyraiki (PPE)

Subject: Port waste

According to an analysis of waste samples collected from the sea bed in the port of Syros, the values of ten heavy metals not only exceed normal levels, but in some cases are up to five times higher than the limits stated in the scientific literature and national legislation on marine strategy.¹

Given that Directive 2019/883 of 17.04.2019 on port reception facilities for the delivery of waste from ships is intended to serve the Union's maritime policy by ensuring a high level of safety and environmental protection, will the Commission say:

1. Has the 'inspection database' which, under Article 14 (1) of the Directive, shall be developed by the Commission to ensure implementation of the Directive been completed?
2. What actions has the Commission taken under Article 17 to organise exchanges of experience between national authorities and Member States' experts with regard to the application of the Directive in Union ports?
3. Will funds be made available to Member States from the EU budget for the necessary training of the Coast Guard and port facility staff to enable them to acquire the necessary knowledge on waste management, in particular on health and safety aspects relating to the handling of hazardous materials, in accordance with Article 15 of the Directive?

¹ <https://www.kathimerini.gr/1063415/article/epikairothta/ellada/varea-metalla-ston-vy8o-ths-syroy>