

**Question for written answer E-001635/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU and national government 'cleaner air' policy effectively subsidising uncontrolled damage inflicted by monopolies on the environment and public health.

In its conclusions, the Council indicates that 'current EU cleaner air policy ... has made a significant contribution to improving air quality ...'

In Greece, however, the environment and the health of local residents are continuing to suffer the ill effects of the Fyli landfill, the waste incineration plants at the 'AGET HERAKLIS' and 'TITAN' cement works in Volos and Kamari (Boeotia) respectively, the 'Oil-One' petroleum and chemical waste tanks in Piraeus and the ELPE (Hellenic Petroleum) facilities in Kordelio-Evosmos (Thessaloniki). However, these major health and environmental hazards are being hushed up and concealed by the Commission, which, in answer to questions from KKE Members, maintains that EU directives are being complied with, merely confirming that the EU and national governments are actually providing a support base for profit-driven monopolies that are wreaking uncontrolled havoc on public health and the environment.

What view does the Commission take of the fact that the EU and national governments, which are calling for climate protection, are actually responsible for:

1. bombing and armed intervention in Syria, Libya and elsewhere and the granting of tax exemptions to shipowners and business groups that are principally responsible for environmental contamination and pollution;
2. covering up such pollutant activities and allowing them to continue under the mandatory emissions trading scheme (ETS), while permitting the monopolies themselves to police compliance with 'environmental limits';
3. at the same time imposing 'green taxes' on working people, alleging that they bear 'individual responsibility' for destroying the environment and effectively slipping another 'bonus' into the corporate pocket?