

**Question for written answer E-003762/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Ignazio Corrao (NI)

Subject: Sardinia: dumping of unidentified substances in rivers flowing into the sea and lack of monitoring and information for citizens

Data collected by 'Goletta Verde' in July 2019 in Sardinia reveals that some areas of the sea around Sardinia have frequently been affected by high-risk pollution over a number of years.

The points in Sardinia deemed 'highly polluted' are located in the municipalities of Bugerru (mouth of the River Mannu), Alghero (section of the Via Garibaldi to San Giovanni and in the vicinity of Torre Sulis), Valledoria (mouth of the River Cuggiani) and Quartu Sant'Elena (mouth of the River Foxi).

Pollution is mainly due to poor treatment of sewage at plants that are not fit for purpose and often too small, and which bypass the treatment cycle allowing untreated sewage to be dumped straight into the rivers. The problem is compounded by fly-tipping, particularly in built-up urban areas.

Environmental associations and the public say constant monitoring of river mouths is needed, as provided for in the redevelopment plan, with sites falling under the Natura 2000 management plan particularly concerned.

This being so, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does it know about these facts, the causes and the anomalies?
2. Could the cases referred to constitute an infringement of the Water Directive?
3. How much has Italy paid so far in penalties for failing to treat sewage properly in Sardinia?