

**Question for written answer E-005064/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Elena Lizzi (ID)**

Subject: Pelješac Bridge in Croatia

The Pelješac ( *Sabbioncello* ) Bridge, which will connect the Peljesac peninsula and Dubrovnik to the Croatian mainland, 85 % of which is to be funded by the Commission to the tune of EUR 354 million, is to be built by the Chinese state-owned China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC), which won the tender in 2017. China's policy of building strategic infrastructure is a clear manifestation of Beijing's desire for expansion.

In view of the EUR 60 million discount, the six-month reduction in construction time and the use of EU citizens' money, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. In its view, is the participation in calls for tender – involving the use of EU funds – of economic operators owned by third countries in which democratic principles and human rights are not respected, in keeping with EU policy <sup>1</sup> ?
2. Is it aware of any cases of Chinese workers working on the Croatian bridge without regular permits?
3. Is there any official notification relating to the postponement of the completion of the work, the deadline for which had been 31 July 2021, and has any provision been made for a penalty, where appropriate?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.amnesty.it/rapporti-annuali/rapporto-2019-2020/asia-e-pacifico/cina/>