

**Question for written answer E-006525/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Environmental burden on Aspropyrgos and its surroundings.

The inhabitants of the industrial town of Aspropyrgos, which houses chemical plants, two large refineries, an ammunition factory, a cement factory, the largest hazardous waste treatment plant and storage and/or recycling facilities for hazardous and non-hazardous waste, have been witnessing its decline for a number of years. Both the SYRIZA government and the present New Democracy government granted hundreds of environmental permits for industries such as these, where the occasional fire spreads carcinogenic pollutants into the wider area.

The already overburdened area now risks containing an even greater concentration of polluting activities with the proposed amendment of the General Urban Plan, under the aegis of the European Union, thus increasing the risk of a large-scale industrial accident.

In the light of this:

1. What is the Commission's view of the demands of the inhabitants of Aspropyrgos, Thriasio and Western Athens to bring a definitive end to the death and disease being spread by the Integrated Waste Management Facility, which has a toxic landfill at its core?
2. How does the Commission view the need for an immediate comprehensive risk assessment of the area around Aspropyrgos and Thriasio to prevent any risk to workers and residents, the first step being to reject the proposed General Urban Plan and to redefine it based on the needs of local residents?