

**Question for written answer E-000059/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Rosanna Conte (ID)**

Subject: Preliminary assessment of MOSE, Venice

MOSE, which is the Italian acronym for 'experimental electromechanical module', is a system of mobile barriers to protect the city of Venice and its lagoon from the 'acqua alta' phenomenon – the tide peaks which have become increasingly common as a result of the destructive waves seen in recent years.

Activated for the first time on 3 October 2020, the system proved itself effective during recent episodes of severe weather, preventing the damage seen in the past.

In the last few days, Italy has received a request for an urgent review of the river basin management plans for eight districts, including the Eastern Alps, where the Venetian Lagoon is located, in order to ascertain the environmental effects of canal-dredging and the operation of the MOSE system.

Given that this pilot has only just got under way with MOSE's launch and entry into full operation, and considering the obligation to conserve the lagoon fauna in protected areas, I should like to ask the Commission:

1. What would it really hope to achieve by pursuing an infringement procedure?
2. What alternatives would it suggest to protect the city of Venice, its lagoon, residents and businesses from problems connected with the acqua alta phenomenon?