

**Question for written answer E-003450/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Erosion of France's Mediterranean coastline

Following publication of an article in the French press, I have myself noted the ravages wrought by erosion along the Mediterranean coast and the considerable damage this is doing to the economy, society and the environment. This state of affairs is likely to grow worse in the future and some Mediterranean beaches could soon disappear. One worrying set of figures shows that 40 % of the Mediterranean coastline is affected by erosion.

The situation along a large part of the French coastline (1 500 km, i.e. one quarter of the total) and the European coastline (approximately 20 000 km, 2014 figures) is equally worrying.

What is more, this has a direct knock-on effect on biodiversity. The International Union for Conservation of Nature describes these bays as 'vulnerable'. An entire ecosystem is in danger.

Action must be taken immediately, as a matter of urgency, while at the same time planning medium and long-term measures that will hold back erosion and mitigate its effects.

With regard to this, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Which programmes and means can be deployed in support of the study and the establishment of medium and long-term action to hold back this coastal erosion?
2. Has it fixed a timetable for this?
3. How will funding for combating erosion be determined?