

**Question for written answer E-004438/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Ignazio Corrao (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Sardinia. Intermittent 'maritime territorial continuity' causing significant damage to the island's economy and inconvenience to citizens

The Italian state is not ensuring maritime territorial continuity for the citizens of Sardinia and has continued to infringe their right to mobility for years.

Since 2012, the company 'Tirrenia', and subsequently the company 'Tirrenia-CIN', have been receiving state subsidies in order to ensure territorial continuity. The latter company, in particular, received state subsidies to the tune of EUR 72.6 million per year for 8 years, EUR 60 million per year of which were supposed to be for the 'continuity' routes for Sardinia, an agreement which expired in July 2021. Subsequently, a new Invitation to Tender for Territorial Continuity was opened, split up into routes. This was a new procedure which resulted in the non-submission of bids for certain routes which were less advantageous for commercial carriers. It thus failed to ensure that important routes were covered.

For example, the permanent loss of the link between the two ports of Cagliari and Arbatax with Civitavecchia is creating an unsustainable situation and considerable damage to the Sardinian economy, as the south of Sardinia will remain isolated.¹

In the light of the above, can the Commission clarify the following:

1. Is it aware of the situation?
2. Does it think that the procedure whereby the new call for tenders was split into routes was fair and proper?
3. In the light of its answer to E-003120/2018 (ASW), what are the solutions being adopted today to resolve the situation?

¹ <https://www.lanuovasardegna.it/regione/2021/09/13/news/dopo-l-ultimo-viaggio-da-cagliari-civitavecchia-si-allontana-1.40697662><http://www.regione.sardegna.it/argomenti/trasporti/marittimo.html><http://www.regioni.it/dalleregioni/2021/07/20/sardegna-continuita-territoriale-marittima-lassessore-todde-disponibili-ad-aprire-un-tavolo-di-confronto-sulle-proposte-di-legge-esistenti-640480>https://ingate.invitalia.it/esop/toolkit/opportunity/ns/5052/detail.si?isOnModification=false&_ncp=1631550295414.189376-2https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-8-2018-003120_IT.html