

**Question for written answer E-004684/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Laura Ferrara (NI)**

**Subject:** Hydrocarbon exploration along the Crotona coast

In Calabria, hydrocarbon exploration for oil and gas will be allowed to be conducted from 1 October 2021 in the sea off the coast of Crotona.

More specifically, on the basis of permits issued in 2016 (FR41GM, FR42GM, FR43GM, FR44GM and FR45GM), the Global Med LLC company will be allowed to carry out the above activities in waters beyond 12 nautical miles from the Crotona coast.

This is clearly at odds with Europe's climate objectives and with the international commitments laid down in the Paris Agreement.

In order to counter the effects of the current climate crisis, it is essential that we put an end to, or drastically reduce, the extraction, exploitation and use of fossil fuels.

In light of the above:

1. Are these hydrocarbon-related activities compatible with the Union's climate objectives, with the European Green Deal and with the scientific evidence set out in the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)?
2. Were the permits for these activities issued in accordance with the required environmental assessments under the relevant EU directives?
3. Does the Commission not agree that Member States should suspend at least the 'new' permits regarding fossil fuel extraction and should they not, rather, be speeding up the energy transition to renewables?