

**Question for written answer E-001291/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Sabrina Pignedoli (NI)

Subject: Overflow basin project at Grave di Ciano on the River Piave, Veneto

To deal with potential flooding of the River Piave, the Veneto Regional Government plans to construct huge overflow basins covering 555 hectares and to narrow the riverbed at Grave di Ciano (Treviso), which is an area protected by the Natura 2000 network (SPA IT 3240023 Grave del Piave and SAC IT 3240030), and has included the project in the NRRP so that it receives Next Generation EU funding.

No sediment management programme has been adopted for the project, and Italy is already in the spotlight under EU Pilot 6730/14/ENVI.

No documentation on the feasibility of alternative solutions has been submitted for this project – ReNDiS Code 05IR231/G1, financed under DD No 505/2017 – despite this being required by the derogation procedure under Article 6 of Directive 92/43/EEC on Natural Habitats.

Commission Communication 2021/C 437/01 is quite clear on the procedure to be followed in such cases.

The District Authority has included the project in the updated 2022-2027 Flood Risk Management Plan, and the plan involving the sites protected by biodiversity rules has been exempted from the Strategic Environmental Assessment (when this is a legal requirement).

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does the Commission consider the project to comply with Directives 2000/60/EC and 92/43/EEC?
2. Does it consider this plan to be in line with the objectives of Next Generation EU?