

**Question for written answer E-000208/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Request for guidelines on positive measures to protect coasts from erosion by the sea in order to benefit biodiversity

Increasingly severe climate changes and the gradual rise of waters in coastal areas increasingly call for human action to protect such areas. In some parts of Italy, a country with 8 000 kilometres of coastline, certified artificial underwater structures have been installed to dissipate wave-driven flows, by reducing the waves' kinetic energy, and to allow water to circulate properly, while restoring the balance of the seabed. Furthermore, as shown in studies by the research bodies involved, the installation of these pyramid-like structures, made from non-toxic, eco-sustainable concrete, leads to the establishment, between the coast and the open sea, of unique ecotonal areas with a high level of biodiversity that are quickly colonised by marine life, creating stable trophic chains.

Therefore, taking into account the objectives of the biodiversity strategy, does the Commission agree that the Member States should be given specific guidelines that highlight and/or promote the installation of artificial underwater modular structures that are eco-sustainable and have environmental certification, such as those used in some Italian regions to protect coasts and benefit marine biodiversity?

Supporter¹

Submitted: 25.1.2023

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Gianantonio Da Re (ID)