

**Question for written answer E-001971/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Malamocco-Marghera canal works project in Venice

The excavation of the Malamocco-Marghera canal in the Venetian Lagoon (Natura 2000 special protection area) is in breach of EU regulations. Moreover, the works are being improperly financed by the national plan for complementary investments to Italy's national recovery and resilience plan.

These are not maintenance and restoration works, but new works with a significant impact on natural habitats and landscapes, which violate the 'do no significant harm' principle. These works are not intended to protect against marine erosion, but against wave erosion produced by ships. Therefore, they are port works for which an environmental impact assessment of their affect on the lagoon environment has not been carried out, according to the criteria established under Directive 2014/52/EU, in particular to avoid 'salami slicing'.

- 1) Can the Commission verify whether this project is in breach of Council Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive), Directive 2000/60/EC (Water Framework Directive) and Directive 2014/52/EU (Environmental Impact Assessment Directive)?
- 2) Can it also verify whether the use of the national recovery and resilience plan funds for this project is appropriate?

Supporter¹

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