

**Question for written answer E-002197/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Idoia Villanueva Ruiz (The Left)

Subject: Felling of trees to build a private car park in Pamplona

The Municipality of Pamplona (Navarre) plans to fell 46 trees in the Ensanche district, next to the Plaza de la Cruz, apparently, to construct a private car park on public land. These works shall involve the ground being excavated to a depth of 15 metres and shall last for at least 22 months. This measure has met strong opposition from the local community and the shops affected by the felling of trees. On the one hand, the presence of trees on city streets serves to capture CO₂ and to lower the temperature during hot spells. On the other hand, the works will produce a large amount of emissions, affecting air quality and worsening public health.

Bearing in mind that cities are key players in the fight against climate change, in line with the European Green Deal and the Fit for 55 package, I should be grateful if the Commission would answer the following questions:

1. Does the Commission consider that this could have an impact with regard to compliance with Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe?
2. Does it consider that the increase in parking spaces and the felling of trees are in contradiction with the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy?

Submitted: 12.7.2023