Question for written answer E-003078/2023 to the Commission Rule 138 Sabrina Pignedoli (NI)

Subject: Works on the Trento railway bypass

In Trento, work on the new railway bypass is being held up by investigations into environmental damage and pollution in a heavily polluted former industrial area which has been seized by the Italian courts. The work will obviously not be completed by the June 2026 deadline since not a single metre of the planned 25 kilometres of tunnel has been dug. The Italian railway infrastructure manager RFI has no plans to rehabilitate any land and will be moving tonnes of heavily polluted soil will be moved without any precautions, thus riding roughshod over the principle of 'not causing significant damage' to the environment. The project plans to cut the Adige valley in half with tunnels 30 metres below ground level, causing a dam effect that will raise the water table and further increase pollution. The project is being financed by Next Generation EU funds to the tune of some EUR 1 billion.

Can the Commission therefore say: whether it believes this project's blatant violations of European legislation on the allocation of funds, health, the environment, consumer rights and transport should be verified?

Submitted: 18.10.2023