

**Question for written answer E-000049/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Eugenia Rodríguez Palop** (The Left)

Subject: Dumping of microplastics in Galicia as the Galician government stands idly by

A tide of plastic pellets has been washing up on the Galician coast since mid-December. This is nothing new, as an estimated 52 000-184 000 tonnes of this material are dumped each year, but the inaction of the Xunta (autonomous government) of Galicia and its downplaying of the problem has compounded the effects of this particular spill, thus, as the Commission has recognised, jeopardising biodiversity and human health.

The recently submitted proposal for a regulation on preventing plastic pellet losses, part of the EU Plastics Strategy, the Circular Economy Action Plan and the Zero Pollution Action Plan, comes in response to this problem. However, given the particularly serious incidents we have seen, such as those in Galicia:

1. Does the Commission believe that the exemptions and derogations the proposal grants to certain companies and treatment plants enable serious reductions to be made to existing pollution and its effects on ecosystems and human health?
2. Is the Commission considering intervening given the regional authorities' inaction in this particular case?

Submitted:10.1.2024