

**Question for written answer E-000126/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Uncontrolled landfills in operation in Greece, while the Commission considers them closed

Citizen groups from the Greek island of Ikaria are demanding the immediate closure and restoration of the island's two uncontrolled waste disposal sites (landfills) in Evdilos and Raches¹.

A document sent from the Municipality of Ikaria to the Commission in 2021 announced the closure of the landfill. According to the relevant correspondence between Ikaria citizen groups and the Directorate-General for Environment, the landfills on Ikaria are considered closed for the rehabilitation of the sites. The reality is that, as the citizen groups documented with recent photos, the two landfills are still operating illegally and the municipal trucks drop off waste.

The creation of a legal facility for the island's municipal waste has been pending for more than 17 years, and Ikaria's inclusion in the Solid Waste Management Agency of Chios was made solely for appearances and to appease EU regulators, without having any substantial effect.

In this context:

1. What does the Commission intend to do to ensure that the ongoing illegal operation of the uncontrolled waste disposal sites in Ikaria will finally cease?
2. How were the allegations that the landfill had been closed confirmed – falsely? And what are the direct implications of this?

Submitted: 16.1.2024

¹ <https://tvxs.gr/news/ellada/paranomes-chomateres-ta-psemata-tis-elladas-gia-na-min-plironei-prostima-kai-to-paradeigma-tis-ikarias/>.