

**Question for written answer E-000501/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Elche Ordinance on Low Emission Zones lacks penalties and restrictions

On 22 December 2023, the PP-Vox executive of Elche City Council approved an agreement to ensure that there would be no traffic restrictions in the Low-Emission Zone (LEZ) and that there would be no penalties for those who violate the corresponding legislation. Emissions stickers will not be required until 2049, according to the newspaper *Información*.

An LEZ without a restrictive element cannot guarantee carbon neutrality, thus violating Article 5 of Regulation 2021/1119, which calls on the EU institutions and the Member States to ensure continuous progress in meeting the environmental objectives of the Paris Agreement.

This ordinance also fails to comply with the provisions of the 2021-2030 National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) and Article 14 of Law 7/2021, which states that a low-emission zone is an area defined by a public administration in which restrictions are applied to vehicle access, movements and parking with a view to improving air quality and mitigating greenhouse gas emissions.

Does the Commission consider that an LEZ with no restrictions and no penalties can really help support the objectives of the European Strategy for Low-Emission Mobility and the above-mentioned regulatory framework?

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