

**Question for written answer E-000598/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Petros Kokkalis (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Draft law abolishing coastal protection zones

According to the most recent report by the IPCC¹, the Mediterranean is one of the most vulnerable climate hotspots in the world, where there is a 99% probability that extreme weather phenomena will increase more than the global average.

Despite this, in the draft law² that was submitted for expedited consultation, the Greek Government is abolishing the minimum undeveloped zone extending 30 metres from the shoreline, permitting its full 'commercial' development, while other Member States are putting in place legal protection for undeveloped coastal zones that are at least 100 metres wide and may extend as far as 250 metres from the shoreline.

1. Is this draft law consistent with Article 8 of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (2009/89/EC), which the EU has ratified and which is binding on all Member States, and under which coastal zones may not be less than 100 metres in width? Should the whole of the European coastline be subject to the same adaptation standards?
2. Is this draft law consistent with the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 and the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change, under which coastal areas must be protected in terms of the restoration of ecosystems and the protection of human life?

Submitted: 23.2.2024

¹ Ali, E., W. Cramer, J. Carnicer, E. Georgopoulou, N.J.M. Hilmi, G. Le Cozannet, and P. Lionello, 2022: Cross-Chapter Paper 4: Mediterranean Region. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 2233–2272, doi:10.1017/9781009325844.021.

² 'Terms and conditions for developing the public estate in coastal areas and other provisions'