Question for written answer E-000696/2024 to the Commission Rule 138 Massimiliano Smeriglio (S&D)

Subject: Marina of Fiumicino Isola Sacra

In June 2023, the Italian Government decided that the 'pleasure and cruise port of Fiumicino Isola Sacra' was a strategic project under the 'reception of pilgrims and visitors' subsection of the Rome 2025 Jubilee programme.

A full environmental authorisation process had already been completed for the project, although this did not include its newly added function of receiving cruise ships.

The project has indeed been overhauled to enable the port to welcome cruise ships – thus reducing its function as a pleasure port by 50% – such as Oasis-class vessels, the largest in the world. This will have a cascade of cumulative effects on existing ports or those under construction nearby, firstly impacting an area with incalculable artistic, archaeological, cultural-identity and historical riches, including the archaeological heritage of the Roman remains and the ancient village of Ostia as well as the nearby lighthouse and the traditional 'trabucco' fishing techniques in use in the area.

The project may also pose risks to the environment since it is located within the Natura 2000 network, encroaching on three special conservation areas and adjacent to a site of Community importance.

Can the Commission therefore say:

- 1. Whether it believes that building the planned port in Fiumicino Isola Sacra would breach the principles of preserving and safeguarding the cultural heritage enshrined in Article 3 of the TEU and Article 167 of the TFEU?
- 2. Whether it believes it could constitute a breach of the 'Habitats Directive' Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora?

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