

**Priority question for written answer P-000552/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Regularising the status of illegal irrigation in the Doñana National Park

The parliamentary groups in the Andalusian Parliament that support Andalusia's regional government have tabled two proposals for legislation to regularise the status of some 1 400 hectares of irrigated land that had been left out of the 2014 plan (PEOCFD) drafted for the northern area of the Doñana National Park.

With that in mind:

1. In June 2021, the Court of Justice of the European Union condemned Spain for the illegal abstraction of groundwater for the purposes of irrigation in the Doñana National Park. The Court ruled that Spain was breaching EU law by destroying biodiversity in the park. Would the approval of the initiative to make irrigation legal over hundreds of hectares of farmland contravene the CJEU's ruling?
2. The procedure for amending the PEOCFD will in effect entail the adoption of a new special land-use plan via the tabling of legislative proposals in the Andalusian Parliament, and not via the correct administrative procedure involving public consultations and environmental assessments. With that in mind, does the Commission take the view that the procedure is consistent with the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive and the Aarhus Convention?
3. Would such amendment require an exemption to be made under Article 4(7) of the Water Framework Directive, which would have an adverse impact on bodies of water in the Tinto-Odiel-Piedras river basin district?