

**Priority question for written answer P-002810/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Laura Ferrara (NI)

Subject: ETS and possible harm to European and Italian maritime transport

Under Directive 2023/959 the scope of the European Emission Trading Scheme ('EU ETS') was broadened to cover maritime transport, after it had already been extended to air transport in 2014.

However, the most recent studies show that this would severely harm the European port sector as container transshipment activities could gradually leave Italian and European shores in favour of ports in North Africa¹.

Among those hardest hit would be the port of Gioia Tauro, which risks losing all its traffic to African ports since the costs associated with the ETS scheme – an estimated hundreds of million euros per year – would be unaffordable for companies using this Calabrian port.

Can the Commission therefore say whether:

1. it intends to conduct specific studies and analyses to make a specific assessment of the effects on competitiveness and the future costs of transshipment services in European ports in comparison with their non-EU rivals?
2. it intends, with a view to preventing any economic damage, to look into the possibility of guaranteeing and applying a level playing field for European transshipment ports operating in the Mediterranean in respect of competing North African ports?

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¹ <https://www.shippingitaly.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/analisi-fit-for-55-ETS-GT-sett-23.pdf>