

**Question for written answer E-003020/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
César Luena (S&D), Lina Gálvez (S&D)

Subject: Breach of legislation in building the wastewater treatment plant in northern Málaga and its impact

Legal proceedings are ongoing concerning construction of the northern Málaga wastewater treatment plant on the Mestanza plain, an initiative of the autonomous government of Andalusia, owing to its location in a fertile, flood-prone area of the lower Guadalhorce River, the expropriation of land and the felling of thousands of fruit trees as well as irreversible damage to the agricultural ecosystem and the economy of the area, which produces one and a half million kilos of organically certified citrus fruit per year.

Given that there are less expensive sites available in areas at no risk of flooding, can the Commission say:

1. Whether it believes building a wastewater treatment plant in a flood zone to be in compliance with EU legislation on the assessment and management of flood risks?
2. Whether it believes felling thousands of trees and destroying organic farmland to be in line with the objective of using 25% of farmland for organic produce by 2030?
3. How well aligned it believes this project to be with the Nature Restoration Law and the principle of ‘do no harm’ and no net loss of green areas and tree cover as well as the objective of restoring agricultural ecosystems and planting 3 billion trees by 2030?

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