

Question for written answer E-000099/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Maria Zacharia (NI)

Subject: Creation of a European body for certification and evaluation of environmental studies, to supervise EU-funded projects, or major projects, or projects in Natura areas

The procedure for preparing Environmental Impact Studies (EIS) and Strategic Environmental Impact Studies (SEIS) in Greece lacks independence and credibility, because the studies are ordered by the same bodies that implement the projects.

Particularly in the case of large-scale projects of major importance, or areas of high environmental value such as the Natura 2000 sites which are areas of European interest, as well as all projects funded or co-funded by the EU – which means that they become European in character and significance – it is essential to ensure, through independent assessment procedures, that these projects comply with EU environmental law.

A new body should be set up to ensure transparency and impartiality: a European body for the certification and evaluation of environmental studies, which will supervise projects funded or co-funded by the EU, or major projects, or projects in Natura areas during the initial study stage, and will subsequently monitor the implementation stage to ensure that EU environmental law is indeed complied with. In the event of any infringements, this European body will be entitled to take action, including suspension of funding, imposition of fines, and summonses to comply with EU regulations.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission plan to create a European body of this kind?
2. What measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure the impartiality of environmental studies and protection of areas and projects of European interest?

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