

Question for written answer E-000166/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Maria Zacharia (NI)

Subject: Greece: a graveyard of steel as a result of inactive wind turbines

As the first generation of wind turbines installed in Greece comes to the end of its working life, the question arises of managing the mechanical installations, which for the most part are not being dismantled because it is not economically advantageous to do so. They remain in the mountainous regions of Greece, particularly in Natura 2000 areas such as Agrafa, the Mani, Evia and elsewhere, while on those occasions when a decision is taken to dismantle them, they are necessarily deposited in forest landfills, with adverse consequences for the environment because of the toxic materials contained in the blades.

In addition to this, there is also the issue of the restoration of the forest regions where they were installed and the forest transit roads, since the new EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (Commission Communication of 16 July 2021) stresses the need to restore forest biodiversity, as forest ecosystems are a natural ally in adapting to climate change, by performing carbon storage and carbon sink functions. At the moment there is no specific EU legislation to manage the issue, except for a reference in the general EU provisions on waste management (Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC).

Does the Commission intend to lay down a uniform policy for the restoration of the forest regions in question, particularly Natura 2000 areas?

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