Question for written answer E-003766/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Maria Zacharia (NI)

Subject: Unlawful management of hazardous dredged material in Piraeus and mismanagement of European funds for the southern expansion of the cruise port

On the basis of the environmental impact studies for the projects in the port of Piraeus controlled by COSCO, the basic scenario for the management of material dredged from the central port was that it would be encased in the caissons of the southern expansion of the cruise port, a project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the Attica Regional Operational Programme. This specific solution was deemed the safest, given that the dredged material contains large quantities of waste classified as hazardous according to the European Waste Catalogue (EWC).

However, according to recently disclosed documents:

1. In the New Pier of Drapetsona, Piraeus, dredged material is being illegally processed with hazardous waste by Antipollution M.A.N.E. in a location that has a permit only for the transshipment of non-hazardous waste.

2. Regaia Minerals S.A. is responsible for the management of non-hazardous waste. It was suspended in March 2024 and dissolved in September 2024, but in documents from the Attica Region in August 2024 it appeared to be operating legally.

3. The above companies undertook a project linked to European funding without a public tender.

4. The Ministry of the Environment assured the Council of State that everything is lawful, which may have misled the court, resulting in it rejecting an application to suspend the dredging works.

In view of the above:

1. Will the Commission verify the legality of the licensing and financing of the above actions?

2. Will the Commission investigate the possibility that misleading information was provided by the Greek authorities to the court and the European institutions?

3. Will the Commission activate a procedure to recover European funds due to mismanagement?

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