

Question for written answer E-004971/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Ana Miranda Paz (Verts/ALE)

Subject: The eighth omnibus proposal – the environmental one – is yet another attack on democracy, the environment and people's health

The European Commission has just introduced the 'environmental omnibus', which rolls back environmental legislation on the grounds of increasing businesses' competitiveness. The proposal would be a very serious environmental setback, as well as an attack on the Aarhus Convention's principles regarding environmental protection and the right to good administration. It would also exacerbate the already existing lack of transparency, as is being seen with strategic projects being awarded to the benefit of various industrial and mining lobbies, and which would seriously endanger people's and ecosystems' health.

Given that the European Ombudsman has agreed to examine a complaint by civil society about the lack of transparency in access to documents on the environmental impacts of projects designated as strategic projects under the Critical Raw Materials Act:

1. How does the Commission intend to ensure both compliance with the Aarhus Convention and the active participation of civil society and the affected communities in public consultations, at the same time as simplifying procedures?
2. How does the Commission intend to guarantee both the right to good administration and that the environmental impact of environmentally sensitive projects is correctly assessed, so as to prevent extractivist practices in Europe?

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