

Question for written answer E-000497/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Maria Zacharia (NI)

Subject: Planned installation of the LNG floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) ‘ARGO’ in the Pagasetic Gulf

The Pagasetic Gulf is a closed and particularly sensitive marine system, the characteristics of which entail the activation of the obligations of Article 191 TFEU and the precautionary principle, as the CJEU has repeatedly highlighted, inter alia in cases C-127/02 Waddenzee and C-258/11 Sweetman.

The planned installation of the FSRU ‘ARGO’ in an area with limited hydrodynamic renewal raises reasonable doubts as to its compatibility with the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU), the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC), the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the requirements of Article 6(3) of that Directive.

The Pagasetic Gulf has been burdened for decades by pollution from the General Mining and Metallurgical Company SA (LARCO), industrial activities in the Volos Industrial Area, heavy metals accumulated in marine sediments, urban wastewater, shipping traffic, agricultural run-off and the increased presence of microplastics. The accumulated environmental burden makes a rigorous and fully documented environmental assessment imperative, in accordance with the case law C-411/17 Inter-Environnement Wallonie.

Accordingly:

1. Has the Commission examined whether the authorisation of the FSRU ‘ARGO’ complies with Directive 2011/92/EU and adequately reflects the cumulative pressures on the bay?
2. How does the Commission assess the compatibility of new fossil fuel infrastructure with the principle of no significant harm (Regulation 2020/852) and the objectives of the Green Deal?
3. Has the project in question applied for or received funding through the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) or the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESRF), and is such a choice consistent with the judgment C-142/16 (Commission v Germany) on the prevention of environmental damage?

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