

**Question for written answer E-003293/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Emma Fourreau (The Left)

Subject: Major tourism projects in protected natural areas and compliance with EU nature protection legislation

For several months, a number of coastal regions in southern Europe – including Puglia, Sardinia, the Balearic Islands and the Setúbal region of Portugal – have seen people mobilising against tourist complex mega-projects that threaten sensitive coastal ecosystems, echoing the ‘Flamingo Revolution’ in Albania.

These projects raise concerns about protecting biodiversity, land take, privatisation of the coast and land grabbing to the benefit of private interests.

In several Member States, public authorities are watering down environmental protections to facilitate such projects, such as in Mallorca, or relying on derogation arrangements, such as special economic zones in Italy. This development calls into question compliance with EU law on nature protection, particularly when it concerns protected natural areas.

1. Does the Commission consider authorising major tourism projects in protected natural areas to be in compliance with obligations under EU nature protection legislation?
2. How does the Commission intend to ensure that EU nature protection legislation is applied when national or regional authorities relax environmental protections in order to facilitate the implementation of major tourism projects?

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