

**Question for written answer E-003888/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Marko Vešligaj (S&D)

Subject: Cohesion policy investments in waste management

The case of Gospić in Croatia, where between 34 000 and 37 000 tonnes of illegally dumped waste were found in one area, shows how serious the long-term consequences of inadequate waste management can be for local communities and the environment. Alongside concerns about potential soil and water contamination, and its consequences for human health and lives, as well as for agricultural production, the question of liability for the costs of waste removal, site remediation and long-term post-remediation monitoring also arises. Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, through thematic condition 2.6, requires updated planning for investments in waste management which, among other things, must identify the investment gap and sources of revenue to cover the infrastructure's operating and maintenance costs.

1. Can the Commission clarify whether, in the context of the approval and implementation of cohesion policy investments in waste management in Croatia, it has verified compliance with the thematic condition 2.6, in particular with regard to the long-term financial sustainability of the infrastructure?
2. Does the Commission consider that, when financing such projects, appropriate mechanisms should be required to cover the costs of landfill closure, remediation and post-closure monitoring, including financial guarantees and adequate landfill fees, in order to avoid the cost of the consequences of inadequate waste management ultimately being borne by citizens and the public purse?

Submitted: 28.9.2026