

**Question for written answer E-002855/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Gaetano Pedulla' (The Left)

Subject: New works on Lake Idro: compliance of extensions of EIA procedures with the principles of access to environmental information and public participation

Lake Idro is a fragile ecosystem that is home to a Natura 2000 site. Given the potential for significant environmental impacts, the works concerning the management of the regulation of water levels need to be transparent and involve local communities, based on the principles of the Aarhus Convention¹. Recent developments concerning the new works to regulate the waters of Lake Idro have highlighted possible gaps in public participation during the second extension of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) measures². The Lombardy Region's interpretation of the national legislation³ runs the risk of bypassing the aforementioned principles, even though there are significant project changes and environmental factors that could affect the lake's ecological balance.

In view of the above:

1. Does the Commission believe that the procedures for extending the EIA measures could include derogations from the Aarhus Convention's principles of access to information and public participation, which have been transposed into EU law⁴?
2. Does the Commission believe that the obligation to consult the local and regional authorities concerned under Article 5(2) of Directive 2011/92/EU should be guaranteed in order to ensure environmental governance that respects the principle of subsidiarity and the rights of local communities?

Submitted: 11.12.2024

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1367/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2006/1367/oj/eng>

² Question 2500 of 16.9.2024 to the Regional Council of Lombardy, <https://www.consiglio.regione.lombardia.it/wps/portal/crl/home/leggi-e-banche-dati/Atti-di-indirizzo-e-controllo/Dettaglio-atto-di-indirizzo-e-controllo?tipoatto=ITR&numeroatto=2500&idlegislatura=33>

³ Article 25 (5) of Legislative Decree No 152/2006, <https://www.normattiva.it/uri-res/N2Ls?urn:nir:stato:decreto.legislativo:2006-04-03;152>

⁴ Article 2(4), point (b), of Directive 2011/92/EU, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=celex:32011L0092>