

**Question for written answer E-002938/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 144

**César Luena (S&D), Iratxe García Pérez (S&D)**

**Subject:** Impacts of quartz mining in north-east Segovia and its alignment with EU strategic policies

Erimsa's mining megaproject in north-east Segovia (Spain) will occupy 436 hectares for the open-cast extraction of quartz by ground screening, a method that could cause serious damage to the local economy, rural communities and the environment in a region with high ecological value close to Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Sites of Community Importance (SCIs). Led by a Norwegian company with a majority of Chinese-held capital, the project will transfer the economic benefits outside the EU, as the ore will be processed outside Spain and possibly outside Europe.

In view of the above:

1. How does the Commission ensure that projects led by non-EU companies and with negative impacts on biodiversity and local economies are aligned with the EU's strategic autonomy and sustainability?
2. Does the Commission think this project could infringe the precautionary principle laid down in Article 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, given its potential impact on the environment – including biodiversity, critical habitats, soils and water resources – and on human health and nearby SPAs and SCIs?
3. What measures is the Commission proposing to address the climate risks and increased CO2 emissions resulting from this activity, in line with the EU's climate commitments, including Directive 2009/31/EC?

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