

**Question for written answer E-000021/2025  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Maria Zacharia (NI)**

Subject: Natura 2000: Do ‘sites of Community interest’ not interest the Community?

In Greece, the last five years have seen the frenzied installation of wind power plants on a systematic basis and on an industrial scale within protected Natura 2000 sites, in violation of EU legislation. Europe has already lost many Natura 2000 sites as a result of the unchecked installation of wind power plants inside iconic areas of enormous importance for protected species of birds, mammals and habitats or in regions immediately adjacent to those sites. That is despite the fact that, pursuant to Article 6(3) of Directive 92/43/EEC<sup>1</sup>, all plans and projects which are likely to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites must be subject to appropriate impact assessments.

On 14 February 2020, three Greek environmental organisations brought a complaint before the Commission regarding failure to comply with the Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC), while on 15 February 2024 the Commission sent a reasoned opinion to Greece [INFR(2014)4073]<sup>2</sup> for not complying with Directive 92/43/EEC when planning wind farm projects. Since then a year has passed with no action taken, and large-scale projects continue to be located in Greek Natura 2000 sites.

In view of this:

1. What further action does the Commission intend to take to ensure that Greece complies with EU directives?
2. Has the Commission referred Greece to the Court of Justice of the European Union? If not, does it intend to do so?

Submitted: 7.1.2025

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<sup>1</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A31992L0043>

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/atwork/applying-eu-law/infringements-proceedings/infringement\\_decisions/?typeOfSearch=false&active\\_only=0&noncom=0&r\\_dossier=INFR\(2014\)4073&decision\\_date\\_from=&decision\\_date\\_to=&title=&submit=Search&lang\\_code=el&langCode=EN](https://ec.europa.eu/atwork/applying-eu-law/infringements-proceedings/infringement_decisions/?typeOfSearch=false&active_only=0&noncom=0&r_dossier=INFR(2014)4073&decision_date_from=&decision_date_to=&title=&submit=Search&lang_code=el&langCode=EN)