

**Question for written answer E-008877/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Protection of the species *Canis lupus*

The basis for the protection of the species *Canis lupus* at European level is provided by the Berne Convention of 19 September 1979 and by Directive 92/43/EEC, the 'Habitats' Directive.

The protection arrangements, which were justified when the Berne Convention was signed and when the 'Habitats' Directive was adopted, on the grounds that the wolf population was very small, are now unnecessarily restrictive.

Many sheep farmers in various European countries are now complaining that their flocks are increasingly coming under attack from wolves, whose numbers are growing significantly. Farmers' losses are rising and the time for action has come.

The derogations granted by the Member States following the transposition of the directive no longer constitute an adequate response to the problem. The classification of this species under current European rules should therefore be revised.

We received no satisfactory reply to our similar question to the previous Commission (E-12947/2013).

1. Does the new Commission plan to investigate this matter?
2. Does it intend to revise the protection arrangements for the species *Canis lupus*?