

**Question for written answer E-000137/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)**

Subject: Preservation of European biodiversity

The area of the European Union is known as a home to many species of plants and animals that form part of European culture with regard to food. Some of these species have indeed become a part of the true European gastronomic heritage.

However, at the same time market development and the need for cost-effective production have already caused the disappearance of many European varieties that formed part of our world of tastes and fragrances, and generally, eating habits.

There are many individual efforts to save endangered plant and animal species, but these are proving insufficient.

1. I ask the Commission if it intends to create a kind of bank for genes and special habitats in cooperation with the Member States for an effective preservation of European biodiversity?
2. Are there any specific programmes which can directly encourage the preservation of this characteristic of European?