

**Question for written answer E-004656/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

Subject: Insufficient conservation of the Natura 2000 network in Spain

The Commission has initiated infringement proceedings against Spain due to the lack of management plans in 996 Sites of Community Importance. Spain is in breach of the Habitats Directive and the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, which require the drafting and application of such plans for the conservation of these natural areas that are protected by the Natura 2000 network.

In view of the sanction proceedings initiated by the Commission, and given the continued violation of Directive 92/43/EEC and the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 by the Spanish government:

1. Does the Commission feel that measures such as the passing of the new *Ley de Montes* (Law on Mountains) or the privatisation of the environmental impact assessment system could worsen the already insufficient conservation of the Natura 2000 network?
2. How will the Commission react in the event that the Spanish government approves low quality management plans with the sole intention of complying with the prescribed timeframes, without them being useful or effective in their duty to guarantee the correct conservation of these areas?
3. In view of the deficient environmental policy of the Spanish government, will the Commission use all of its powers to ensure application of Community legislation on this matter in Spain?