

**Question for written answer E-006314/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Shelters for endangered species under Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

(CITES) and Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 together lay down the conditions under which international species of wild fauna and flora may or may not be traded.

In Spain animals that have been introduced illegally and are captured alive are either sent to a zoo, so that they can carry on being traded – in breach of the said Regulation –, or they are even left with the traffickers ‘while somewhere to accommodate them is sought’, which never happens. In both cases, therefore, if the purpose of the Regulation is to prevent the import of protected species so that they are not traded for profit, these practices render it ineffective.

1. What obligations do the Member States of the EU have to construct shelters where animals that are captured alive and cannot be returned to where they came from can be housed and looked after?
2. What control does the EU exercise to ensure that Regulation (EC) No 338/97 is complied with?