Question for written answer E-007025/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Special areas of conservation (SACs) in Asturias

In procedure 2015/2013 the Commission has given notice to Spain on account of the country's mishandling of the integrated management tools for SACs (special areas of conservation), which has also led to complaints from environmentalist organisations. As far as Asturias is concerned, this maladministration has in practice denied the public the opportunity to take part actively in the planning process. Furthermore, as a result of zoning errors, some of the Autonomous Community's natural areas are being left unprotected, in spite of the fact that they are Natura 2000 sites and inhabited by brown bears, an endangered priority species.

Given that proceedings have been initiated concerning Spain, can the Commission, in addition to possibly imposing a penalty, insist on a complete overhaul of the integrated management tools, especially those for Cangas del Narcea, Degaña, and Ibias, which are unquestionably the best bear habitat in Spain?

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