

**Question for written answer E-007959/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)**

Subject: Access to water

According to the World Health Organisation, 19 million Europeans do not have access to a source of drinking water that is adequately protected or to safe sanitation, and about 100 million people still lack access to piped water in their homes. The Commission has estimated that by 2007 at least 11 % of Europe's population and 17 % of its territory had already been affected by water scarcity. While there is a framework for action in Europe, its implementation has been rather weak. The Water Framework Directive (WFD), introduced in 2000, has set an objective to get all lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater aquifers into a healthy state by 2015, by taking an integrated ecosystem-based approach. It is likely that almost half of Europe's water bodies will miss the target.

What measures is the Commission taking to improve the implementation of current water legislation, aimed at promoting the protection and smarter use of water and at improving the quality of water?

How does it intend to deploy innovative solutions to tackle the water-related challenges in Europe?