

**Question for written answer E-009341/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Illegal logging in Romania

According to the National Forestry Inventory, 26.9 million cubic meters of wood were logged last year in Romania, 9 million cubic meters of which represent illegal loggings.<sup>1</sup> A total of 366 000 hectares of forest have disappeared illegally in the past two decades (1990- 2011).<sup>2</sup> According to the Commission's latest table on the state of implementation of the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR), Romania is not complying with its legal obligations under the EUTR.<sup>3</sup>

1. What steps will the Commission take to ensure that the Romanian authorities implement the regulation?
2. In the context of the EUTR, could the Commission clarify whether wood processing companies are liable for receiving/accepting illegally harvested wood?<sup>4</sup>
3. Given the fact that even protected areas are suffering from massive legal and illegal logging<sup>5</sup> that interfere with the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020 and the Birds and Habitats Directives, is the Commission already taking steps to make sure that Romania complies with these regulations?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.romaniacurata.ro/avem-cifrele-care-ne-sperie-9-milioane-de-metri-cub-de-lemn-taiat-ilegal-in-romania-in-2014-1-miliard-de-euro-cifra-minima-anuala-a-afacerilor-cu-lemn-taiat-ilegal/>.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.curteadeconturi.ro/Publicatii/economie7.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/timber\\_regulation.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/timber_regulation.htm).

<sup>4</sup> <http://eia-global.org/news-media/austrian-company-exposed>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/agentgreen.ro/videos/851668501558529/>.