

**Question for written answer E-010342/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Svetoslav Hristov Malinov (PPE)

Subject: Conservation of the brown bear in Bulgaria

Under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on natural habitats, the Member States must establish a system of strict protection for the brown bear. In its answer to written question E-013908/13, the Commission stated that it 'is following [...] closely' the issue of 'the necessary additional designation' of protected areas in Rila to include brown bear habitats. Can the Commission provide more detailed and up-to-date information on how the situation has developed with regard to this issue?