

**Question for written answer E-011167/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Unusual behaviour on the part of certain threatened species

Nature conservation organisations, including the WWF, BirdLife and Friends of the Earth, recently published an alarming video showing members of certain threatened species in Europe engaging in unusual behaviour.

One possible explanation for this behaviour is that the species in question can sense the danger they are facing. By way of a reminder, in its report on the state of nature in the European Union the Commission stated that 77 % of habitats had been assessed as unfavourable, making special protection essential. The video merely confirms this assessment, which seems to be the result of the inadequate application of the Habitats and Birds Directives.

1. Is the Commission aware of the video published by nature conservation organisations?
2. Does it plan to take further steps to protect these threatened species and their habitats, as required by the Habitats and Birds Directives?