

**Question for written answer E-012465/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Biodiversity loss

Biodiversity is decreasing rapidly in every EU Member State, in a trend going back several decades. It is estimated that populations of common birds in rural areas of Europe have declined by 51 % since 1980. Similar declines are estimated for butterfly and moth populations in pasture land since 1990. There are numerous causes for such biodiversity loss on agricultural land, but they are already well-identified.

Contrary to what might be expected, many of these causes are fostered by the present common agricultural policy (CAP), which is increasingly market-oriented and induces producers to favour increased productivity and intensified processes, to the detriment of environmental sustainability.

Can the Commission please state what existing instruments there are for monitoring the CAP's impact on biodiversity, countering the effects of agro-environmental measures and the trend towards increasing intensification of production processes motivated by market pressures?