

**Question for written answer E-012582/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Fire at Cualedro

Over the past few days, a major forest fire has swept through Cualedro, near Ourense (Galicia), devastating an area of 3 000 hectares in just over 8 hours, and spreading to the neighbouring towns of Xinzo, Baltar and Trasmiras. The surface area affected is greater than the total area of land affected by fire in Galicia last year.

It is the most devastating fire to hit Galicia so far this summer. Unfortunately, however, it is nothing new in Cualedro, which has three parishes (Lucenza, Montes and A Xironda) that the regional government has classified as being particularly prone to fires.

Bearing in mind the seriousness of the situation, what steps can be taken at EU level, and what support can the affected areas apply for with a view to recovering from what has happened? In addition, and given the repeated fires that have occurred in the area, is the Commission planning to consult the national authorities in order to establish the causes and identify any steps that could be taken to prevent such fires?