

**Question for written answer E-000309/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Viorica Dăncilă (S&D)

Subject: Diminished groundwater reserves

This year has been characterised by higher temperatures and lower seasonal precipitation (snowfall and rainfall) than usual, resulting in diminished groundwater reserves.

This is a matter of great concern to local and central government authorities in a number of Member States, especially after meteorologists announced that the December of 2015 had been the warmest in the last fifty years with the lowest precipitation levels.

Is the Commission, together with the Member States, considering drawing up maps of the areas most affected by the prolonged absence of precipitation and diminishing groundwater levels and monitoring them on a long-term basis?

What strategy can the Commission adopt, in cooperation with the Member States, to improve the efficiency of plants for the purification of wastewater, which can subsequently be used for irrigation and purposes not requiring the use of drinking water?