

**Question for written answer E-000912/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Permission for research into 156 possible mining units in the same area as the Corcoesto project (Galicia)

My written question (E-008073/2014) of 16 October 2014 informed the Commission of worries among the public in my Autonomous Community, Galicia, concerning the mining project at Corcoesto (A Coruña).

These worries may well resurface given the announcement in the Official Journal of Galicia on 15 January 2016 of the acceptance, by order of 4 February 2013, of the application submitted on 20 June 2011 for permission to conduct research into 156 possible mining units in the municipalities of Zas, Santa Comba, Vimianzo and Coristanco in the province of A Coruña, the very same area where, after months of public protest, the application for the Corcoesto mine project was finally rejected.

Is the Commission aware of the Galician Government's mining plans? Has the Commission considered the compatibility of the mining projects under consideration with European rules on nature conservation? Has the Commission taken an interest in the Corcoesto mining project and/or this new permit for mining research?