

**Question for written answer E-001851/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Mark Demesmaeker (ECR), Karin Kadenbach (S&D), Catherine Bearder (ALDE), Lynn Boylan (GUE/NGL), Margrete Auken (Verts/ALE) and Marco Affronte (EFDD)**

Subject: Commission's response to Parliament's strategic initiative report on biodiversity

Parliament adopted its report on the mid-term review of the EU biodiversity strategy with an overwhelming majority, sending a powerful message to the Commission and the Member States to act at the highest political level to safeguard and halt biodiversity loss.

1. With what specific actions, and when, will the Commission respond to Parliament's call, in particular our request for better implementation of existing legislation, stricter enforcement and further integration of biodiversity protection into other policy areas?
2. Parliament, the Council and the Committee of the Regions almost unanimously oppose any revisions to the Nature Directives, calling instead for full implementation of the directives. The ongoing uncertainties about the future of the directives undermine the delivery of the 2020 targets, and risk derailing the strategy altogether; can the Commission clarify its position, including its timetable for the fitness check?
3. Parliament believes that the Commission has a key role to play in facilitating the full implementation of the Nature Directives, including the need to improve the guidelines for implementation; when does the Commission intend to carry out this essential work? Is it a short term goal? If not, why?