

**Question for written answer E-004068/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Once again concerning the Italian National Forestry Corps

With reference to written question E-001126-16 concerning the incorporation of the Italian National Forestry Corps into the Carabinieri police, and the relevant answer received, we wish to point out the following:

- A. Italy has hitherto delegated to the National Forestry Corps the tasks of environmental monitoring, including for the Habitats and Birds Directives, the protection of priority species throughout the country and the suppression of poaching.

These same duties were also previously performed by the provincial police force, which, in 2015, however, took over tasks exclusively relating to municipal police duties.

NGOs are currently reporting widespread irregularities and the impossibility of monitoring hunting¹.

- B. Whilst it may well be that the tasks of the former Forestry Corps officers do not change when they are incorporated into the Carabinieri, the government intends to allow forestry officers to be transferred to other government departments².

- C. In the EU-PILOT6730/14/ENVI investigation, the Commission asked Italy to:

- streamline the forces in charge of environmental monitoring (forestry corps and provincial police);
- strengthen the role of the National Forestry Corps.

Does the Commission believe that points A and B above are compatible with its own requests (point C), given that they may adversely affect the implementation of the Habitats and Birds Directives? Will the Commission call Italy to account for its monitoring of hunting?

¹ <http://www.lipu.it/news-natura/notizie/10-caccia-e-bracconaggio/805-caccia-senza-controlli-ancora-piu-illegalita>

² <http://www.funzionepubblica.gov.it/articolo/riforma-della-pa/10-02-2016/razionalizzazione-delle-funzioni-di-polizia>