

**Question for written answer E-007166/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Changing the 'strictly protected' status of wolves

For a number of years now the number of wolf attacks on livestock has been continually on the rise in France, particularly in the Alpine region, as is shown, for example, by the latest figures from the 'Direction Départementale des Territoires' of the Department of Isère. One attack per day is currently recorded in France.

For the farmers affected there is no clear definition of, or guidance on, how to respond to such attacks. The current legislation (the Bern Convention and the European Habitats Directive of 21 May 1992) confers the status of 'species in need of strict protection' on wolves in particular.

When the directive was adopted, wolves were endangered in France, hence the decision to give it special protection. Its survival is no longer a cause for concern.

In view of the repeated attacks and the consequent financial impact, particularly in the form of compensation to livestock farmers, does the Commission propose to review the wolf's current protected status?

Has it managed to arrive at a position in 2016, as its answer to Question E-014555/15 implied?