

**Question for written answer E-008645/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (ENF)

Subject: Ban on hunting predators and carnivores in Romania

An article in the online magazine 'Romania-Insider' reports that, on 4 October 2016, the Romanian Environment Minister Cristiana Pasca Palmer prevented quotas from being set for the hunting of wild carnivores such as brown bears and wolves¹. The ARD in Vienna has reported that bears have recently attacked people and killed many farm animals². Several thousand bears live in the Carpathian mountains alone. Hunting these predators not only protects local communities and wild animals but also helps control population numbers.

1. How does the Commission assess the problem of attacks by wild animals on people and farm animals in Romania?
2. Does this issue touch on any European guidelines?
3. What is the Commission's view on the absence of hunting quotas to protect the population and farm animals and prevent predator overpopulation?

¹ <http://www.romania-insider.com/romania-stops-the-hunting-of-brown-bears-wolves-and-wildcats>

² <https://www.ard-wien.de/2016/11/02/rumaenien-baeren-abschussquoten>