

**Question for written answer E-008647/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Stefan Eck (GUE/NGL) and Klaus Buchner (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Dolphinarium in the European Union

Despite a clear lack of public support, dolphinarium, and similar facilities where cetaceans are kept, still benefit from EU structural funds for maintenance and building of extensions.

1. Can the Commission provide a list of all the dolphinarium and similar facilities that have been given EU support, for instance through the EU structural funds?

When it comes to breeding books for animals, many species are covered by sectorial breeding book schemes, but for cetaceans kept in dolphinarium there are still many issues.

2. To what extent can the Commission guarantee transparency regarding the breeding books of cetaceans in captivity and make the information contained therein public?

Cetaceans are dependent on salt water, or rather artificial seawater, in their tanks and enclosures in order to stay healthy and survive. However, more and more dolphinarium are adding chlorine to the water in an attempt to cut costs and keep the water clean.

3. As chlorine in artificial seawater has a negative impact on the welfare of cetaceans in captivity, what are the thresholds for chlorine and when will the Commission revise these to take into account animal welfare concerns?