

**Question for written answer E-000515/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Emergency measures to reduce the number of Iberian lynx killed on the roads

Six Iberian lynx died in the first three weeks of this year, three hit by vehicles on roads and one killed by a poacher. Road casualties constitute the main cause of death for this endangered species, and its primary threat.

While the end of 2016 showed a fall in the number of animals killed on the road compared to the two previous years, figures for 2017 may signal an end to the significant progress achieved in recent years, during which the Iberian lynx population has quadrupled in size.

The aforesaid situation threatens the success of the Iberian lynx conservation project Iberlince LIFE, which is jointly funded by the Commission. In view of this:

1. Does the Commission believe actions and measures planned by the Iberlince LIFE project (creation of wildlife crossings, net enclosures, speed reduction measures, etc.) should be stepped up to reduce the likelihood of Iberian lynx being killed by vehicles on roads?
2. Will it urge the Spanish authorities, and in particular the Ministry responsible for public works and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and the Environment, to take urgent steps to stop Iberian lynx being killed on the roads?
3. How is the Commission involved in the new Iberian lynx conservation strategy that will begin in 2018 and what will be its main goals?