

**Question for written answer E-001422/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: European Court of Auditors report on Natura 2000

On 21 February 2017, the Court of Auditors published a report on the safeguarding of biodiversity. The findings of the report, which is based on an in-depth analysis of management and funding in five countries (Germany, Spain, France, Romania and Poland), are worrying. The Court is categorical in its assessment: the Member States have not met the objectives for safeguarding biodiversity. For that reason, the Court emphasises the need for coordination between the sectors concerned (environment, agriculture, industrial development and tourism). What is more, there is a great deal of uncertainty surrounding the funding of Natura 2000: Member States are reluctant to disclose their sources of funding.

1. In the light of the Court of Auditors' unfavourable report, how will the Commission try to achieve better results in the area of the preservation of biodiversity in the coming months?
2. How will it get the Member States to produce comprehensive reports on the funding of Nature 2000?