

**Question for written answer E-004228/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Fire in Doñana National Park

Despite the fact that the Doñana National Park in Andalusia is the largest nature reserve in Europe, and a Unesco World Heritage Site, over 80% of the original area of wetland has been lost as a result of human activity.

Projects such as the Marismas Occidental ('western marshes') gasworks – part of a larger project spearheaded by Gas Natural – are being developed in an area which is extremely important ecologically, as well for the countryside, tourism and agriculture. These developments are causing immense environmental damage.

The fire that affected the area on 25 June 2017 has had an impact on Iberian lynx and imperial eagle numbers. Both species are protected under EU-funded conservation projects such as 'Iberlynce'.

1. Does the Commission still take the view that there are no indications that EU legislation is being breached in relation to the Marismas Occidental project, as it stated in its answer to Written Question E-006731/2016?
2. Does the Commission take the view that the fact that there has been a lack of preventive action in the area of countryside concerned, and that the area has been neglected, amounts to a breach of the Habitats Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna?
3. Given how important the Doñana National Park is for Europe, is the Commission considering using the EU Solidarity Fund to help in the area affected?