

**Question for written answer E-004704/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Water protection

Recent statistics have found that about 50 % of the EU's surface waters have still to attain good ecological status, and the EEA's assessments of the status of and pressures on EU freshwater bodies show that heavy metals are a dominant pollutant for lakes. The delay of the WFD (Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC), the main legislative act on water protection at EU level, has been attributed to various circumstances, such as a lack of ambition by Member States, inadequate data availability and insufficient internal and external policy coherence.

What are the Commission's recommendations to encourage Member States to follow a strategic roadmap with a view to improving water quality?

How does the Commission intend to address the lack of monitoring data, which is a major impediment to implementation of the directive?