

**Question for written answer E-006911/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Commercial hunting and sustainability of the ecosystem in the Monfragüe National Park

The Targeted Action Plan for the Monfragüe National Park (Extremadura, Spain), which forms part of a project under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development presented this week, provides for the hunting of deer up to a total of 114 individuals.

Deer constitute a key species in terms of the sustainability and biodiversity of the Monfragüe National Park, a Natura 2000 area (ES0000014), which was declared a natural park on 4 April 1979, an SPA in 1988 and a UNESCO biosphere reserve in 2003.

In the light of the above and given that hunting for commercial purposes or sport involves unnecessary suffering for the animals:

What measures will the Commission take to ensure that the biodiversity of the Monfragüe National Park is respected in the future Targeted Action Plan?

How will the Commission ensure the reproduction and sustainability of deer and other species in the Monfragüe park listed in Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive in view of the reopening of commercial hunting?

Finally, and taking into account that the species belonging to the *Cervidae* are on the European Red List of endangered species, does the Commission consider this status, and the concomitant requisite level of protection, to be compatible with the hunting of this species?