

**Question for written answer E-001445/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Svetoslav Hristov Malinov (PPE)

Subject: Environmental assessment of the Pirin National Park management plan

Management plans for Natura 2000 sites are brought into Bulgarian law through the 2002 Biodiversity Act. Those concerning protected areas are developed under the 1998 Protected Areas Act, which applies in the case of Pirin National Park, referred to in Written Question P-000055/2018. It is important to clarify that the amendment of the Pirin National Park management plan is not linked to the management of Natura 2000 and is subject to environmental assessment procedures under Directives 2001/42/EEC and 92/43/EEC.

Nevertheless, the amendment of the current Pirin National Park management plan (2004-2013) was adopted by the Bulgarian Council of Ministers on 28 December 2017, without either a screening procedure or a full environmental assessment having been carried out. This amendment extended the possible construction zone to up to 48 % of the territory of the national park in question and multiplied by four the area designated for the development of ski facilities.

In light of the above, can the Commission inform me what it will do to guarantee that all environmental assessments required under EU law are carried out for the amendment of the Pirin National Park management plan adopted on 28 December 2017?