

**Question for written answer E-005777/2018**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Pollution from hunting ammunition (lead) in Galicia's natural parks

If hunting using ammunition containing lead, a highly polluting metal, is permitted in Galicia in areas protected under the Natura 2000 Network, such as the Serra da Enciña da Lastra Natural Park SCI [ES1130009] and the Baixa Limia Natural Park SCI [ES1130001], and in the tens of thousands of hectares where hundreds of thousands of pellets are discharged each year, which are ingested by birds and their predators, it would be incongruous to call the gunsmiths 'conservationists' or guardians of a protected natural environment.

These battles are also taking place in sensitive areas, such as the former Antela Lake (SPA), where 'half-closed seasons' have been authorised on land adjacent to environmental and bird protection areas.

1. What measures is the Commission considering taking in light of the huge presence of this metal, and in relation to complying with Directives 2009/147/EC and 92/43/EEC?
2. Following the recent statements made by the ECHA, is the Commission considering accelerating the elimination of lead from hunting ammunition?
3. Has the Commission made the Government of the Xunta de Galicia aware of the issues relating to lead pollution? Is it considering doing so?