

**Question for written answer E-000264/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Susanne Melior (S&D)

Subject: Import of rare parrots to the EU

A recent investigation into the export of rare parrot species from Australia to the Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots e.V. (ACTP) in Germany has revealed that they are being offered for sale to wealthy collectors¹. The ACTP, which has one of the world's largest private collections of rare and endangered parrot species, is licensed to operate as a zoo, but has no facilities freely open to the public. Its only known financial contributions to conservation projects have been made to countries that allowed it to import endangered bird species. According to the exposé, governments and regulatory bodies have ignored the numerous concerns about the ACTP raised by scientists, conservationists, breeders and politicians. The ACTP lacks transparency and is refusing to release information regarding its governance, staff, scientific expertise, credentials and finances to the public.

1. Is the Commission aware of the findings from the investigation and does it plan to address the issue with the German Federal Ministry for the Environment?
2. Will it consider developing legislation that sets out to make transparency, accountability and regular public reports a requirement for any EU facility that holds a considerable number – or the majority – of the world's captive population of any endangered species?

¹ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/11/legitimate-zoo-obscure-german-group-endangered-parrots-actp>