

**Question for written answer E-002448/2019  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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(NI)**

Subject: Directive 2004/35/EC and updating penalties for environmental damage

The Commission Report COM(2016)0204 highlighted a number of serious problems and shortcomings in Directive 2004/35/EC on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage, referring in particular to the scope of the instruments that are expected to achieve the objectives set and their effectiveness.

Subsequent to this, the Commission launched a multiannual work programme for the period 2017-2020, intended to feed into a general revision of said Directive.

Penalties are an important deterrent in preventing environmental damage. Given this:

- 1) Has the Commission also made provision in its work programme for a study to be conducted on revision of Directive 2008/99/EC on protection of the environment through criminal law?
- 2) Will it – pending finalisation of the work programme – create a public EU database of environmental damage cases governed by Directive 2004/35/CE, the aim being to boost implementation of the Directive and increase the amount of information available on cases of environmental damage?
- 3) Will it promote a properly funded, systematic information campaign, through the Member States, to ensure that potential polluters and potential victims are informed of the risks they run, the availability of insurance or other financial and legal means that could protect them from those risks, and of the benefits they could gain from them?