

**Question for written answer P-001065/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Josep-Maria Terricabras (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Environmental flow of the Ebro delta

The interim Spanish Government has approved a plan for the Ebro river basin that associations in the area claim contravenes the Water Framework Directive in that it does not guarantee an environmental flow of between 6 000 and 10 000 cubic hectometres per year at the river's mouth. The river basin plan provides for a flow of just 3 000 cubic hectometres. An official delegation from Parliament's Committee on Petitions will travel to the Ebro Delta on 8 February 2015 for an on-the-spot analysis of the condition of the area and to meet petitioners from the Ebro Defence Platform [Plataforma en Defensa del Ebro].

The Ebro delta is a Site of Community Importance (LIC ES0000020) protected as part of the Natura 2000 network. Ecology groups and experts say that if the annual flow rate repeatedly falls below the minimum it needs, this will seriously damage the surrounding environment.

- Will the Commission organise a mission to the Ebro Delta to examine the situation at first hand?
- Will the Commission penalise Spain should infringement of the Water Framework Directive be proven?
- What is the Commission's assessment of the river basin plans published by the Spanish Government?