Question for written answer P-009494/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Filiz Hyusmenova (ALDE)

Subject: Publication of results of the fitness check on the Natura 2000 directives

Natura 2000 is the EU's basic nature conservation mechanism. According to statistics from the Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation, which is a member of the 'Let Nature Remain' ('Za da ostane priroda') Coalition, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and CEEWeb for Biodiversity, over half a million European citizens actively support the continuation of Natura 2000 and have insisted the Commission to do more to ensure the directives are implemented at national level. Among them, 10 000 Bulgarians have expressed their disagreement with the amendment and repeal of the directives and insisted they be fully implemented. Opinion polls conducted in the past few years have shown there to be over 70% public support for the conservation of Bulgaria's Black Sea coast, mountains and forests.

Since the Commission has on several occasions delayed publication of the results of the fitness check on the Natura 2000 directives, can it state:

- 1. When it will publish the results of the fitness check on the Natura 2000 directives?
- 2. What methods and mechanisms it intends to apply to ensure better implementation of the directives at national level?

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