

**Question for written answer P-006512/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Recent wildfires in Galicia and Asturias

On 15 and 16 October 2017, devastating wildfires swept through thousands of hectares of land in Galicia and Asturias, causing damage to protected natural areas and urban centres. In Asturias, the blaze threatened to engulf the Muniellos Nature Reserve, the best preserved oak forest in Spain, while in Galicia it reached the city centre of Vigo. The fires have also claimed the lives of several people who tried to put out the flames surrounding their houses.

Fire brigades and the local population have been working together to fight the remaining pockets of the blaze, but they have suffered from the lack of an effective fire prevention policy and insufficient supervision in the forests.

1. Does the Commission think that Regulation (EC) No 1485/2001 on the protection of forests is being breached?
2. Does the Commission believe that the Spanish government is fulfilling its obligation to prevent wildfires and investigate their real causes?
3. What measures will the Commission take to monitor the distribution of funds for fire prevention, which are currently being mismanaged?