

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0627/02  
by Wolfgang Kreissl-Dörfler (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Conservation of wild birds directive

In 1999 the Commission initiated proceedings for failure to act against the Federal Republic of Germany (action No 1999/4095) in response to the incomplete transposition of Directive 79/409/EEC<sup>1</sup> (conservation of wild birds directive) in connection with the federal German hunting laws. Although the Commission has already sent letters of formal notice to the Federal German Government, the latter has not even amended the federal regulation governing hunting seasons, which still authorises the hunting of birds, even during migration back from their wintering areas and during the breeding season. Instead, the Federal German Government has asked the Commission to set up a working party with the task of drawing up interpretations of the relevant provisions and thus highlighting the scope for circumventing the ban on spring hunting (Article 7 of the conservation of wild birds directive).

1. Who are the members of this working party?
2. What time-frame has the Commission laid down for the drafting of the interpretations by the working party?
3. Does the Commission take the view that the judgments concerning Article 9 of the directive already handed down by the CJEC and national administrative courts are not sufficient, so that additional 'interpretations' are genuinely needed?
4. What measures does the Commission plan to take in order to prompt the Federal German Government, which has thus far merely paid lip service to the need to transpose the conservation of wild birds directive, to speed up the transposition process?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 103, 24.4.1979, p.1.