

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0952/07

by Gisela Kallenbach (Verts/ALE), Jill Evans (Verts/ALE) and Milan Horáček (Verts/ALE)
to the Commission

Subject: Implementation of Natura 2000 network in Bulgaria

The identification of areas of high biodiversity and landscape value was an important part of the compulsory pre-accession commitments undertaken by Bulgaria. This commitment is a result of two European directives, 92/43/EEC¹ and 79/409/EEC², as well as a direct obligation under the Biological Diversity Act adopted on 10 August 2002. Bulgaria had to submit a full list of the national zones belonging to the European Natura 2000 Network by the date of its accession. The following questions derive from this process.

- Is the European Commission satisfied with the implementation of the EU's Birds and Habitat directives in Bulgaria?
- What is the current state of Bulgaria's efforts to establish its Natura 2000 network?
- Does the Commission consider that the proposed areas for the Bulgarian Natura 2000 network represent the most important areas requiring conservation from the point of view of natural habitats, and wild fauna and flora?
- What action does the European Commission take in the event that a Member State does not fulfil its obligation to present a proposal for Natura 2000 designation within the time limits, and the estimated initial size of the future NATURA 2000 as part of the territory of the country, set in the legislation or Accession Treaty?

¹ OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7.

² OJ L 103, 25.4.1979, p. 1.