

**Question for written answer E-011016/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Trouble with Natura 2000 in Poland, for example in Dolina Bobrzy

Experts assert that the Natura 2000 programme is resulting in inconsistencies on the ground in protected areas, that it is neglecting such areas, and that this represents a major problem for many Poles. A good example of this is the 'Dolina Bobrzy' Natura 2000 site in Świętokrzyskie province. We have obtained an analysis from an ecological services expert which shows that the swift designation of that valuable wildlife area, which in this case was carried out within six months, only took account of a single, incomplete growing season. Yet the designation of that exceptionally diverse and ecologically valuable region of Świętokrzyskie province, as well as the time frame within which it was carried out, ought to have reflected the specific characteristics of the sites. Furthermore, experts point out that the natural characteristics of Dolina Bobrzy have been irreversibly damaged due to neglect under the Natura 2000 programme. It should also be added that Natura 2000 often has an adverse effect on the layout of host communities and on investments.

1. Is the Commission aware of the problems caused by inconsistencies at Natura 2000 sites in Poland?
2. Is it aware that Natura 2000 sites in Poland are often neglected, resulting in their natural characteristics being irreversibly damaged, as has happened in Dolina Bobrzy?
3. The programme has damaged the natural characteristics of the site and it is harming the residents' community interests by impacting on planned infrastructure investments. Will the Commission, therefore, consider intervening with respect to certain parts of the Dolina Bobrzy site, given that this Natura 2000 site is *de facto* able to extend beyond the originally designated area?