Question for written answer E-000241/2014 to the Commission Rule 117 Franco Bonanini (NI)

Subject: Managing damage caused by wildlife, with particular reference to wild boar

Over the years, the scale of damage caused to farming by wildlife has increased significantly in terms of negative impact on the economic activities of businesses in the farming and livestock sector and on the conservation of biodiversity.

It is noted that strategies adopted at national level have proved ineffective and/or in any event insufficiently effective.

This issue must necessarily be tackled within the framework of a common strategy for biodiversity conservation (Community interest pursuant to Articles 2, 11, 14 and 16 of Directive 92/43/EEC, recently reiterated in the EU's general environment action programme to 2020), capable of going beyond the scope of national and local planning instruments inasmuch as the negative impact suffered by one ecosystem will inevitably have repercussions on the neighbouring ecosystems.

It must be borne in mind, when speaking of wildlife, that the negative impact of the overpopulation of wild boar (*Sus Scrofa*) makes that species the most hazardous for ecosystem balance and farming and livestock activities, thus requiring a specific technical and scientific approach and the establishment of a careful plan that takes account of the impacts on the farming system and local biocenoses.

In the light of the foregoing, could the Commission answer the following questions:

- 1. What urgent measures does it intend to adopt in order to ascertain the extent of the damage and what assistance can be arranged to support local institutions?
- 2. Does it intend to promote a direct instrument to help farming businesses in view of the clear disproportion between the damage suffered and the financial instruments made available by the EU for their protection, defence and possible compensation?
- 3. Does it intend to propose an ad hoc instrument to prevent damage caused by wild boar?
- 4. Does it intend to make the issue of damage to farming caused by wildlife a priority on the EU's policy agenda?

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