

**Question for written answer E-001328/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Rareş-Lucian Niculescu (PPE)

Subject: Bison in Bucşani

The Forestry Office in Dâmboviţa is seeking the necessary approval to include the 'Zimbrăria Neagra' bison reserve, which is the largest in Romania, in the Bucşani hunting area. The 'Zimbrăria Neagra' bison reserve was founded in 1983 and currently has 50 bison in an area of 162 hectares. Official statements from the Forestry Office in Dâmboviţa argue that this area is sufficient for only 30 bison and that the animals could be hunted to raise money for the reserve.

Given that the European Union classifies *Bison bonasus* as a 'priority species' in the Habitats Directive and the Berne Convention classifies it as a 'protected species':

1. Does the Commission consider the above initiative to be compatible with EU legislation?
2. Will the Commission renew its support for the protection of endangered species in the EU?