

**Question for written answer E-001877/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Sabine Wils (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Forest monitoring in the EU

The EU has signed and ratified the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP). In the past, monitoring of forests was carried out via the International Cooperative Programme (ICP) on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests, operating under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe CLRTAP. Recently, the financing of ICP forests became merely a project and now receives only minimal funding.

1. How does the Commission assess the need for long-term forest monitoring in general, and in particular forest monitoring that has an integral approach (e.g. one that includes air pollution and other issues related to forest ecosystems)?
2. How does the Commission plan to finance such a programme or project for the monitoring of forests?
3. In the Commission's opinion, what are the arguments in favour of a programme for forest monitoring? What are the Commission's arguments for making forest monitoring a project?
4. In the Commission's opinion, what are the pros and cons of integral forest environment monitoring?
5. How does the Commission plan to act with respect to the EU-ratified CLRTAP? In the Commission's opinion, how can the CLRTAP aims be achieved?