

**Question for written answer E-004510/2014
to the Commission
Rule 117
Mariya Gabriel (PPE)**

Subject: Voluntary research to monitor the loss of honeybee colonies in the EU

The Epilobee study was published on 7 April 2014, based on the findings of the voluntary research conducted in 17 Member States to monitor the loss of honeybee colonies. The Commission, for its part, granted EUR 3.3 million for the research in the period 2012-2013. That amount was supplemented in the period 2013-2014 with an additional amount of EUR 1.8 million.

Can the Commission state, in this connection:

Whether, in future, it might be made obligatory for such research to be conducted in all 28 Member States?

Whether the EU could provide 100% financing for that research?

Which bodies it is in contact with in Bulgaria that would be called on to take part in that research?

How it will ensure that beekeepers in the Member States are informed of the possibility for their countries to take part in monitoring the loss of honeybee colonies?