**Question for written answer E-004736/2016**

**to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: European Cormorant Management Plan

In several regions, cormorant populations have reached levels that threaten inland and coastal fisheries, as well as pond fisheries. The severe challenges posed emanate not just from sedentary populations, but especially from migrating species, as migrating populations require a Europe-wide solution. Individual national measures cannot solve this problem as populations that are controlled by management plans drawn up by one country could move to a neighbouring country. A further problem is that the stock sizes of migrating populations cannot be measured easily. We therefore seek an EU-wide harmonised approach involving the environmental community in order to ensure the full effectiveness of potential measures.

1. How does the Commission intend to proceed, taking into account relevant scientific evidence from environmental organisations and existing environmental legislation?

2. We believe that the European Cormorant Management Plan is necessary. Does the Commission share this view?