

**Question for written answer E-002855/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Marco Dreosto, Massimo Casanova, Joëlle Mélin, Gilles Lebreton, Thierry Mariani, Susanna Ceccardi, Gianantonio Da Re, Danilo Oscar Lancini

Subject: Political influence on government members of the NADEG technical group regarding the proposed lead shot ban over wetlands under REACH.

The Commission proposal regarding the restriction on the use of lead gunshot within or over wetlands is currently under discussion by the REACH Committee. A vote is expected in June 2020.

Ahead of the EU Expert Group on the Birds and Habitats Directive (NADEG) meeting of 6 and 7 May 2020, DG ENV (Unit D.3, Nature Protection) requested that NADEG representatives contact the competent national authorities in charge of REACH – in particular their national representatives in the REACH Committee – in order to raise their awareness on the above issue and to ensure a vote in favour of the Commission proposal. Such action appears to be in breach of EU law, procedure and standard practice. According to the REACH Regulation, it is the Reach Committee that would have the exclusive competence to make a decision as regards a proposed lead shot ban over wetlands.

1. Can the Commission confirm that DG ENV acted in breach of EU law, procedure and standard practice?
2. Can it say what action will be taken to rectify this case of maladministration?