Question for written answer E-005258/2020 to the Commission
Rule 138
Ernest Urtasun (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Environmental impact of the project at the old Sant Pere de Ribes race track

The Government of the Generalitat de Catalunya has definitively approved, in the Penedès Territorial Commission for Urbanism, the project to construct an events centre focusing on equestrianism and motor sports on the old Sant Pere de Ribes race track. This project will have a significant ecological impact: a surface area of 677 245 m², 2 000 horses, 23 000 m² of hotels and 35 000 m² of land for car parks, all in the middle of an area of high value from a nature perspective. An area of high scenic and agricultural value is losing its protection, an area which, until now, has not been made available for development. Scant regard is also being paid to the area's ecological function as a biological corridor between the preserved areas of Colls i Miralpeix (between Sitges and Vilanova i la Geltrú) and the Garraf Massif, both of which are protected by the Natura 2000 Directive and form part of the Plan for Areas of Natural Interest in Catalonia. This area is also a habitat for the Bonelli's eagle, a species included in Annex I to the Birds Directive.

- 1. Given its proximity to a protected biological corridor, does the Commission consider that the project is compatible with the Natura 2000 Directive?
- 2. Does the Commission consider that the project complies with the Birds Directive?