Question for written answer E-006859/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Maria Spyraki (PPE)

Subject: Disturbance of a Natura 2000 area in Elafonisos

The beach at Elafonisos, which is a Natura 2000 network site of Community importance (GR2540002), was the site of a very serious disturbance which breached Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. During a TV show, a heavy-duty vehicle was shown driving along a protected area of sand dunes, an activity that is strictly forbidden in order to protect species from any disturbance and to preserve their breeding and resting grounds.

In view of this:

- 1. What information does the Commission have concerning the protection of the Elafonisos habitat and what is its assessment of the effectiveness of the measures adopted?
- 2. What is the Commission's overall assessment of the protection afforded under Greek law to the Natura 2000 network? Does it sufficiently include all necessary conservation measures to ensure that the environmental value of protected areas and of the species that live in them remains high?
- 3. Has the Commission requested or does it intend to request additional measures or management plans with specific measures for Greek Natura 2000 protected areas?