Question for written answer E-005685/2021 to the Commission Rule 138
Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Thousands of farm animals killed by wild animals

Over the past five year, there has been a tenfold increase in the number of calls to the emergency number for reporting bear sightings in homes, farms and on the streets. This is also a burgeoning problem due to the thousands of domestic animals being killed by bears and the unwieldiness of the procedure for intervening in such situations.

People's lives need to be protected and the relevant legislation amended to enable hunters and state bodies to intervene as quickly as possible to protect individuals and their farms. Bears currently sit at the top of the food chain in Romania, and the bear population is growing naturally, since man is doing nothing to stop this. When a bear is sighted, the gradual course of action is to ward off the bear, if it keeps returning, to tranquilise and relocate it or, in the worst case scenario, if the bear is aggressive, to shoot and eliminate it.

The European Union has many programmes for protecting nature and wildlife, which is quite normal and healthy, but some countries are now faced with the issue of the safety of their human populations. How does the Commission view the possibility of relocating groups of bears in the mountains and natural habitats of western Europe?