

**Question for written answer E-000285/2022  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Laura Huhtasaari (ID)**

Subject: Wolf hunting for population management purposes

Finland is a large, sparsely populated country, where agriculture and forestry are nevertheless practised throughout its territory all year round. Finland has a long land border with Russia, measuring almost 1 300 kilometres, which enables animals such as wolves and bears to cross the border back and forth freely.

In many Finnish villages and hamlets in the countryside wolves cause considerable damage, when, for example, they attack livestock. Furthermore, they frighten residents in remote districts, because the distances that children have to travel to school are often long. Because we have a system of general conscription in Finland, there are a lot of people who know how to handle weapons. If the wolf were to be removed from Annex IV to the Habitats Directive and included in Annex V, hunting for population management purposes would be made possible.

Does the Commission intend to deregulate the strict protection of the wolf, so that the Finnish people are able, in their own country, to hunt the wolf for purposes of population management?