

**Question for written answer E-000252/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Laura Huhtasaari (ID)

Subject: Extension of the ban on lead shot

On 15 February 2023 the ban on the use of lead shot in wetlands (Ramsar definition) will enter into force. In a country such as Finland, with its plentiful areas of water and marshland, this will cause a lot of problems for hunting. The latest data suggest that there is a call to extend the ban, with the result that rifle and shotgun ranges would be faced with difficulties or would even have to cease operating entirely. This would have a major adverse impact in a country such as Finland, where our large number of trained reserves need space to train.

I would like to ask what the Commission could do for its part to ensure that the expanding ban on lead gunshots does not have a negative impact on Finland's general national defence and on the prerequisites for training the Finnish reserve?

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