

**Question for written answer E-001806/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Mireia Borrás Pabón (Pfe)

Subject: Habitats Directive: wolves and the defence of livestock farming

On 29 July 2024, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruled that wolves cannot be categorised as a ‘hunnable species’ north of the Douro, as the Regional Law of Castile and Leon does, in contrast with the Habitats Directive. Neither the CJEU judgment nor the Habitats Directive looks after the interests of Spanish farmers, who are the ones affected by wolf attacks (5 566 livestock killed in 2023).

In 2023, VOX presented Spain’s Congress of Deputies with a proposal for a law on the drafting and implementation of a national wolf plan in order to, inter alia, promote the amendment of the Habitats Directive by allowing wolf control in the national territory and also contributing to the conservation of the species.

In light of the above:

1. Does the Commission consider the CJEU’s ruling to be appropriate and proportionate with regard to the interests of livestock farmers and in the knowledge that the Habitats Directive does not even mention this sector?
2. Is the Commission considering amending the Habitats Directive in order to achieve a balance between livestock farmers and wolves?

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