

**Question for written answer E-003751/2025**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**César Luena (S&D)**

**Subject:** Legal vacuum on trading in illegally obtained wildlife

Wildlife trafficking is not only a direct threat to biodiversity, but also a growing criminal business linked to organised crime, corruption and global health risks, as demonstrated by the pandemic. The European Union remains one of the world's main markets for wildlife species, many of which are obtained illegally.

A recent study<sup>1</sup> by the Commission confirms two concerning facts: a legal vacuum allows species caught illegally in third countries to enter and circulate on the European market, however, it would be legally possible to criminalise trade in wildlife of illegal origin in the EU.

In view of the above:

1. Will the Commission present, in this legislative term, a legislative proposal to penalise trade in illegal wildlife, based on Article 83(2) TFEU?
2. Why has the fight against this wildlife trafficking not been made a political priority, despite recommendations by Europol and international organisations?
3. Will the Commission beef up the TRACES system to cover non-CITES species and ensure real traceability?

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<sup>1</sup> Study on the need for, added value, and feasibility of (Lot 2) criminalising all trade in illegal wildlife across the EU.