

**Question for written answer E-003968/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Hilde Vautmans (Renew)

Subject: Monitoring and support following the reduced protection status of the wolf

In several Member States, including Belgium, Germany, France, Italy and the Scandinavian countries, the return of wolves and their growing population is leading to rising tensions. Farmers and families are faced with an increase in numbers of attacks on livestock and high costs for preventive measures. The European Parliament has therefore recently decided to downgrade the protection status of the wolf in the Habitats Directive from ‘strictly protected’ to ‘protected’. This gives Member States more scope to take action themselves, but many are struggling with practical and legal questions surrounding implementation and the scientific justification required.

The following questions thus arise:

1. Will the Commission actively monitor how Member States deal with the reduced protection status of the wolf and the consequences this has for agriculture, biodiversity and rural communities?
2. Does the Commission plan to provide support to Member States that have additional questions about how to interpret the Habitats Directive and the application of the new status?
3. Will the Commission facilitate a platform for best practices so that Member States can exchange experiences and solutions regarding damage prevention and how to coexist with wolves?

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