Question for written answer E-002145/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Annalisa Corrado (S&D), Camilla Laureti (S&D), Irene Tinagli (S&D), Marco Tarquinio (S&D)

Subject: The Commission's letter concerning Italy's hunting decree-law

According to several Italian animal welfare associations and press sources[1], the Commission sent a formal letter to the Italian Government on 18 December 2025 highlighting a number of issues with Draft Law No 1552, which is supposed to amend Law No 157/1992 on the protection of wild fauna.

The Commission has highlighted certain serious infringements of Directives 2009/147/EC (Birds) and 92/43/EEC (Habitats) contained in the draft law, particularly the provisions which extend hunting periods, allow for the use of optical devices for night hunting and lift certain restrictions concerning the use of live decoys – all of which could lead to an uptick in poaching and wildlife trafficking. The formal letter's biggest concern is the fact that the Draft Law No 1552 is proposing to water down the role played by the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), whose opinions would no longer be binding.

Though these provisions have been flagged as problematic, they have not undergone substantial changes as Draft Law No 1552 continues its passage through the Italian Parliament.

In the light of the above, we ask the Commission:

1. Has the Italian Government formally replied to the queries contained in the Commission's communication of 18 December 2025 and what clarifications or commitments, if any, has it made?

2. Does the Commission think that the law in its present form could be at odds with EU law and trigger infringement proceedings?

Submitted: 26.5.2026

[1] https://www.corriere.it/animali/animali-selvatici/26_maggio_06/lettera-ue-al-governo-contro-la-riforma-della-caccia-le-associazioni-svelano-i-richiami-di-bruxelles-a42351bb-7d41-4698-8130-3caccb7cbxlk.shtml.