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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.8.2026)

The Commission acknowledges the strong public concern regarding the hunting of dolphins and other cetaceans in the Faroe Islands. It attaches importance to cetacean conservation and animal welfare and raises these concerns with the Faroese authorities, including through annual consultations under the Memorandum of Understanding on Enhanced Cooperation between the EU and the Government of the Faroe Islands¹.

The Commission is committed to continuing a constructive dialogue with the European Parliament and to ensuring that concerns raised by the European Parliament and its Members are taken duly into account, also through welcoming Members of the European Parliament as observers in the delegations to the relevant international conventions. The Commission will also continue to engage with all partners, exchange scientific knowledge and promote cooperation to advance shared biodiversity conservation objectives in bilateral dialogues and relevant multilateral fora, including on the issues mentioned above.

In line with the Commission's 2024 Working Methods², Commissioners, their Cabinets and the relevant services maintain regular exchanges of information to ensure that Commissioners are appropriately briefed for their engagement with the European Parliament. This includes the sharing of accurate and up-to-date information on issues raised by Members of the European Parliament, including in committee activities and parliamentary questions. These arrangements were applied in preparation for the Commissioner's exchange of views with the European Parliament's Environment, Climate and Food Safety Committee.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/2024/20240321_Signed_MoU.pdf.

² https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/4b958a25-a16a-4ac2-bda8-c14a18bd117c_en?filename=Working%20Methods%20of%20the%20European%20Commission.PDF.