

Question for written answer E-002717/2024

to the Commission

Rule 144

Sebastian Everding (The Left), Anja Hazekamp (The Left), Thomas Waitz (Verts/ALE), Martin Hojsik (Renew), Michal Wiezik (Renew), Carolina Morace (The Left), Delara Burkhardt (S&D), Emma Fourreau (The Left), Sigrid Friis (Renew), Lukas Sieper (NI), Niels Fuglsang (S&D), Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE), Cristina Guarda (Verts/ALE), Catarina Martins (The Left), Jutta Paulus (Verts/ALE), Krzysztof Śmiszek (S&D), Per Clausen (The Left), Jonas Sjöstedt (The Left), Friedrich Pürner (NI), Sibylle Berg (NI), Martin Sonneborn (NI), Tilly Metz (Verts/ALE), Gabriele Bischoff (S&D), Maria Noichl (S&D), Anthony Smith (The Left), Romana Jerković (S&D), Annalisa Corrado (S&D), Manuela Ripa (PPE)

Subject: Potential downgrade of the protection status of the wolf

1. What measures does the Commission consider necessary to ensure the long-term survival¹ of the European wolf population and to respond to future declines² in their numbers?
2. Is the Commission committed to preventing any further changes to protection statuses, particularly of predators such as seals and bears?
3. What scientific arguments³ supporting the current wolf protection status have been examined, which recent invitations from relevant organisations to the permanent conference of the Bern Convention have been appropriately acknowledged⁴, and on the basis of which criteria were the scientific arguments for maintaining this status deemed insufficient?

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¹ taking into account, among other things, the necessary genetic diversity and other cross-border phenomena and conditions.

² especially due to the increase in (including illegal) hunting.

³ see Recommendation No. 56 (1997) of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention concerning guidelines to be taken into account while making proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II of the Convention and while adopting amendments.

⁴ why, for example, was the Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe not invited?