

**Question for written answer E-002066/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Roberta Metsola (PPE)**

Subject: EU plan on insect protection

A study featured in the British daily newspaper *The Guardian* has caused a stir with its finding that more than 40 % of all insect populations are declining sharply. The researchers have warned that the rate of their extinction is eight times faster than that for mammals or reptiles. In the worst-case scenario, there may not be any insects at all in 100 years' time.

In its reply to Parliamentary Question E-000861/2018, the Commission stated that it is aware of the growing body of research showing widespread declines of insects throughout the EU.

However, can the Commission provide information on what further action it is planning to take to tackle this problem and on whether it is considering an EU-wide plan that goes beyond legislation on the use of pesticides and on pollinators?