

Question for written answer E-014473/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Ulrike Müller (ALDE)

Subject: EU funding options for tackling the environmental impact of silting-up at the Chiemsee

What EU funds can be tapped to prevent further silting-up at the mouth of the Prien river where it enters the Chiemsee?

The Chiemsee is Bavaria's largest lake and a particularly important natural habitat. It has been affected by unusually extensive silting-up around the mouth of the Prien river and in the Schafwaschener Winkel area. Counter-measures were last taken in 1996.

The flora and fauna of the lake are particularly threatened by the influx of sediment and driftwood when the water level rises, and this is occurring ever more frequently. The native Chiemsee mussel cannot live in the muddy water and is at risk of extinction. The formation of clay banks and excessive overgrowth on the lake shore are making it harder for rare birds to establish territory there. Fish cannot spawn where the water channels have narrowed.

Sustained counter-measures are needed to ensure that the silting-up does not result in the loss of this unique aquatic biosphere. The requisite action could be taken as part of a comprehensive plan based on the principle of sustainability and the stipulations of the Water Framework Directive.

How can the European Union help to fund such action?