

**Question for written answer E-002563/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Serious disruptions to Member States' control systems and food sovereignty

Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products establishes measures that the Commission can take in the event that 'a serious disruption in a Member State's control system' is found. However, it gives the Commission discretion to determine whether a disruption has actually taken place or not.

The increasing number of interceptions by the EU regarding products from third countries which do not conform to EU rules is alarming. The lack of control over contaminated products in the single market poses a clear risk to Member States and their food sovereignty. I would therefore like to ask:

1. Does the Commission have specific parameters for determining whether the Member States' control systems have been seriously disrupted?
2. Given the breaches of the rules by countries such as China and South Africa, is the Commission considering classifying certain countries as 'trade risks', with a view, among other matters, to protecting our countries' food sovereignty?

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