

**Question for written answer E-000035/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Public health risks in the European Union due to the mutated avian influenza variant in the United States

Recent reports from the United States indicate the emergence of a mutated variant of avian influenza that is transmissible to mammals, including livestock, and poses a risk to humans through direct transmission from farm animals (zoonosis). This development raises significant concerns for public health in the European Union and its Member States, as well as for the safety of agricultural products such as milk and meat.

1. What measures has the Commission taken to assess and mitigate the risks posed by this mutated avian influenza variant to public health and agriculture within the European Union?
2. Is the Commission collaborating with Member States to conduct preventive testing for the presence of avian influenza in high-risk products, such as milk, and are specific monitoring protocols in place to detect zoonotic transmission?
3. How is the Commission ensuring the readiness of Member States' public health and veterinary systems to respond effectively to a potential outbreak of this mutated virus and does the Commission plan to strengthen cross-border coordination and communication on zoonotic diseases in light of this new risk?

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