

**Question for written answer E-003366/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Maria Angela Danzi (NI)

Subject: Measures to prevent and contain swine fever in Lombardy

An outbreak of African swine fever in the provinces of Pavia and Milan and surrounding areas has led to the slaughter of more than 36 000 pigs.

Under Regulation (EU) 2016/429 special restrictive measures may be taken to prohibit or severely restrict activities deemed risky, such as the transit of animals or hunting, in areas hit by multiple outbreaks.

Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594 lays down special disease control measures, in particular the establishment of restricted zones, as provided for in Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

The extraordinary commissioner appointed to deal with this emergency has drawn up a plan, whose effectiveness and state of implementation need to be assessed.

The Lombardy Region has taken some measures, such as the suspension of hunting, the restriction of all types of recreational activities in the infected areas, and bio-containment measures in pig farms,

which have failed to curb the spread of the virus, which is destroying an entire economic sector, causing untold harm to the areas concerned, the productive sectors and the economy as a whole.

Can the Commission therefore say whether it has checked the compliance of the measures taken by the authorities with the EU's directives on controlling the spread of African swine fever and protecting animal welfare?

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