Question for written answer E-001387/2024/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 144
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR), Galato Alexandraki (ECR)

Subject: Spread of ‘peste des petits ruminants’ virus in sheep and goats in Kalampaka

Livestock breeders in Thessaly were severely affected by last year’s flooding. We therefore consider it our duty to do all that is in our power to support breeders who are determined to go on practising their profession in the face of adverse conditions and the State’s indifference

Thessaly’s local authorities are in a state of alert as the ‘peste des petits ruminants’ virus in sheep and goats continues to spread. After cases were initially discovered at a unit in Kalampaka, where the animals were immediately put down and buried in accordance with the rules in force, more cases have been found in three nearby units, where the same procedure was followed.

All necessary measures have been implemented in the area from the outset. There are two surveillance zones with a radius of 3 and 10 km respectively, within which the movement of animals is forbidden and controls and sampling are being carried out by the authorities. However, despite these measures, there is concern and questions have been raised about the extent to which the virus has spread to another area. This puts the problem in a different perspective.

In view of this:

If the Commission considers that the number of vets in the area needs to be increased, what legislative tools and financial resources can it use to support such an initiative?

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