

**Question for written answer E-002193/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Beatrice Timgren (ECR)

Subject: Concerns regarding satellite data accuracy in the EU forest monitoring proposal

The Commission's proposal on forest monitoring has raised concerns about the accuracy, cost-efficiency and feasibility of satellite data in monitoring forest activity. For example, satellite data has incorrectly classified selectively thinned forests as fully deforested, creating a misleading picture of forest management.

This reliance on global algorithms, which lack regional specificity, like those from Global Forest Watch, risks undermining long-established national monitoring systems such as Sweden's National Forest Inventory, leading to unnecessary administrative burdens¹.

1. How does the Commission plan to ensure that satellite data methodologies are regionally accurate, particularly in countries such as Sweden, where major discrepancies have already emerged?
2. What steps will it take to avoid additional administrative burdens and costs on Member States, while fully respecting existing, long-standing forest data systems such as those in Sweden and Finland?
3. How will it address concerns over data confidentiality, including the protection of private property and national security, particularly in avoiding the over-collection of sensitive information through geographically explicit identification systems?

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¹ <https://www.svt.se/nyheter/inrikes/sverige-pekas-ut-som-skogsbov-eu-far-fel-uppgifter>.