

**Question for written answer E-002633/2024/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)

Subject: Strengthening control mechanisms and implementing legislation on transmissible animal diseases in Greece

The recent outbreak of avian influenza in Bulgaria is raising concerns about the safety of animal products and the protection of public health in Greece. Regulation (EU) 2016/429 requires Member States to apply strict control measures to prevent the spread of diseases between animals. Despite these measures being compulsory, checks are inadequate in many cases, as illustrated by some examples of non-compliance with EU standards seen in other countries, where there have been delays in checks to verify diseases.

As a country on the EU's external border, Greece must ensure that monitoring systems are adequate to prevent the introduction of zoonotic diseases from neighbouring countries.

In view of the above:

1. What steps is the Commission taking to ensure compliance with EU law in Greece, where checks for avian influenza are lacking?
2. Are there any initiatives that can be taken to boost monitoring systems, particularly in areas that are at high risk due to their proximity to countries with active epidemics?
3. How does the European Commission plan to provide financial and technical support to Greece for the creation of biosecurity infrastructure that is more effective, ensuring that zoonotic diseases are detected and dealt with promptly?

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