

**Question for written answer E-004206/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)

Subject: EU vaccine bank and tackling sheep pox and goat pox

Sheep pox and goat pox have remained endemic in Greece since 2023, with continuous outbreaks mainly found in Macedonia and Thrace. Despite containment measures and the mass killing of herds, the disease continues to spread. This has severe repercussions for livestock farming, the rural economy and social cohesion in the affected areas. DG SANTE's report (of 16 May 2025) highlights the insufficient administrative capacity of the Greek authorities, the difficulties in monitoring restricted zones and the risk of further spread.

In accordance with Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2020/687 and Article 69 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429, Member States may postpone the killing of listed animals and implement a vaccination plan. Nevertheless, the Greek Government argues that sheep pox and goat pox vaccines are not authorised, citing national legislation which still sets out the killing of animals as a key measure. Conversely, the European Commission and DG SANTE explicitly refer to vaccination strategies and making use of the European vaccine bank for category A diseases.

Can the Commission say:

1. Are authorised sheep pox and goat pox vaccines available, and in what quantities?
2. What measures will be taken to ensure that Greece complies with EU law, which permits vaccination as an alternative to killing?

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