

**Question for written answer E-004486/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Excluding printed products from the scope of the EUDR

The recent Commission proposal to simplify the Regulation on Deforestation-free Products¹ (EUDR) poses a serious and tangible risk to press freedom and the broader cultural and information sector in Europe. The inclusion of finished printed products creates disproportionate burdens for printed content publishers and retailers while contributing nothing to the protection of forests.

There are reports that the Regulation's overly complex and burdensome requirements are already pushing retailers to threaten to delist press, and that some publishers have already announced plans to withdraw from the EU. There is also a danger that millions of books will have to be destroyed because the EUDR would prevent them from being imported into the EU, undermining the entire reasoning behind the Regulation's aim to save forests.

Furthermore, printed products are already highly sustainable and form the backbone of Europe's democratic, cultural and information ecosystem. While Commission attempts to simplify its most dangerous regulations are always welcome, it is clear that in this instance, much more must be done to protect a critical sector.

Will the Commission therefore revisit its EUDR simplification proposal and exclude printed products such as books, magazines and newspapers from Annex I of the Regulation?

Submitted: 12.11.2025

¹ Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 of 31 May 2023 on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation (OJ L 150, 9.6.2023, p. 206, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1115/oj>).