

**Question for written answer E-004939/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
César Luena (S&D)

Subject: Management of avian influenza in wild birds in Madrid and lack of diligence in public health protection

The recent deaths of several white storks around the Manzanares river due to highly pathogenic avian influenza exposes serious shortcomings in health and environmental risk management in the Community of Madrid. Despite the fact that this disease is covered by EU animal health legislation, there has been public criticism over the lack of clear protocols and information for emergency services, as well as the way that regional emergency authorities have downplayed the risk to citizens.

Regulation 2016/429 on animal health establishes obligations on surveillance, early detection, notification and coordination in relation to communicable diseases, including those that affect wild birds. In addition, Directive 2009/147/EC requires significant disruptions and mortality rates in protected species to be avoided.

In light of the above:

1. In the Commission's view, does management by regional authorities comply with the diligence, surveillance and communication obligations set out in EU law?
2. Does the Commission consider the lack of clear protocols and information for emergency services to constitute a failure to comply with EU animal health legislation?
3. Does the Commission intend to take action when insufficient regional management of outbreaks in wildlife threatens public health and trust in EU warning systems?

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