

**Question for written answer E-000298/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Nikos Pappas (The Left)

Subject: Management of sheep and goat pox in Greece — Use of vaccines, mass culling and implementation of Regulation (EU) 2016/429

According to reports, the Greek authorities are carrying out mass culls of sheep and goats infected with or suspected of sheep and goat pox, without implementing vaccination as a measure to prevent or contain the disease.

Given that sheep and goat pox is classified as a category A disease under Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1882 and Regulation (EU) 2016/429 ('Animal Health Law'), in particular Articles 9 and 10 and Annex II thereto, and that control and eradication measures are further regulated in Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687, in particular Articles 21 and 22, providing for proportionate measures and protection and surveillance zones:

1. What is the Commission's scientific and regulatory assessment of the vaccines available through the European Sheep and Goat Pox Vaccine Bank in terms of their safety, essential characteristics and efficacy?
2. How does the Commission interpret the statements of the Greek authorities that the vaccines in question are 'not approved' and what is the prescribed EU procedure and the usual timetable for the approval or exceptional use of such vaccines in emergency situations?
3. In light of the widespread animal cull in Greece and reports of illegal vaccination by livestock farmers, does the Commission intend to intervene to ensure the proportionate application of EU law and to consider the use of vaccination as a complementary disease management measure?

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