Question for written answer E-000431/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Christine Singer (Renew)

Subject: Application of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/1422 – enclosure-based keeping of sika deer (Cervus nippon)

Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/1422 adds sika deer (Cervus nippon) to the Union list of invasive alien species. For many years, sika deer have been kept legally in agricultural enclosures in several Member States, including Germany. This method of keeping is economically valuable and there is steady demand for sika deer meat.

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the actual risk of sika deer spreading and creating hybrid species if they are kept in secure enclosures and are prevented from coming into contact with red deer?

2. To what extent does the Commission see scope under Regulation (EU) 1143/2014 to ensure that existing, legal enclosure-based holdings are allowed to continue, in particular with regard to transitional and derogating provisions?

3. How does the Commission intend to ensure that the regulation is applied proportionately, without imposing blanket restrictions on economically valuable farming methods proven to be of little risk to the environment?

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