

**Question for written answer E-000442/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Yannis Maniatis (S&D)

Subject: Illegal movement of pets and failure to implement EU law

According to the Agri-Food Fraud Network report (2023)¹, systematic illegal movement of animals is being observed through the abuse of ‘non-commercial movement’ (Regulations 576/2013, 577/2013). The use of falsified documents, the circumvention of health controls and the loss of traceability pose serious risks to public health and biosecurity in the Union, as well as to animal welfare.

At the same time, complaint CPLT(2025)02624 of the Federation of Animal Welfare Associations of Greece documents the failure of the Greek authorities (judicial, police, veterinary, etc.) to enforce Regulation 2016/429 and the case law of the CJEU (C-301/14). Incidents of commercial trade in pet animals from non-approved establishments (Regulation 2019/2035), the non-use of the TRACES system (Regulation 2020/688) and the use of falsified passports have been recorded. The infringements found are accompanied by the failure to impose effective and proportionate deterrents, in breach of Article 139 of Regulation 2017/625 and Article 268 of Regulation 2016/429.

In view of the above:

1. Having regard to complaint CPLT(2025)02624, how does the Commission assess Greece's compliance with EU law?
2. What stage has the examination of this complaint reached and what further steps does the Commission intend to take?
3. What specific measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure the full implementation of control obligations and the imposition of truly effective and proportionate deterrent sanctions?

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¹ https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/1c729e23-42b8-4c8c-bb8d-89992f9fb577_en?filename=agri-fraud_report_Illegal-trade_cats-dogs.pdf