

Question for written answer E-001217/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Emergency support for livestock farmers in Lesvos following the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease and restrictive measures

The recent confirmation of a case of foot-and-mouth disease on a livestock farm in Lesvos, for the first time in many years in Greece, has led to the imposition of strict restrictive measures on the island, with serious repercussions on the primary sector.

Specifically, bans on the movement of animals and livestock products outside the island have entered into force and milk collection and the sale of meat have been suspended. This situation is affecting thousands of livestock farmers and is threatening the economic viability of one of Lesvos' most important production sectors.

The crisis is all the more serious given that it coincides with the run-up to Easter, when a large part of lamb and goat production is intended for sale to consumers.

Given that animal diseases are a matter that concerns the whole of Europe and that the way in which they are dealt with has a direct effect on the rural economy and the security of the food supply chain, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What emergency financial tools does it intend to deploy to support the livestock farmers in Lesvos who are affected by the foot-and-mouth disease restrictions?
2. Is it possible to deploy the common agricultural policy's reserve for crises in the agricultural sector, to provide direct financial support to affected producers?
3. How does it intend to support Member States in preventing and responding to animal diseases so as to avoid such crises leading to the collapse of entire local economies, and will it consider specific support measures for EU island regions affected by such health crises in the primary sector?

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