

**Question for written answer E-002964/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Katri Kulmuni (Renew)

Subject: Reducing administrative burdens and improving legal clarity on EUDR implementation

The Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) currently creates significant administrative burdens and legal uncertainty for the European sawmill industry. Compliance requires substantial investments, while providing no direct revenue or competitiveness benefits. A major challenge is the lack of legal clarity in the regulation and the Commission's interpretations.

A more streamlined approach would focus EUDR obligations at the start of the supply chain, allow flexibility in the management of due diligence references, exempt low-risk by-products from reporting obligations, and recognise Finland's forest-use notification system as a due diligence mechanism in low-risk countries.

1. When will the Commission provide legally binding clarifications on the definitions of 'operator' and 'placing on the market', as well as on the obligations regarding the transfer of due diligence statement reference numbers, and how will it ensure that the aggregation and bundling of due diligence statements can be implemented flexibly and broadly across the different timber procurement models used at national level?
2. Does the Commission intend to exclude low-risk sawmill by-products, such as wood chips, sawdust and bark, from the scope of EUDR obligations to reduce disproportionate administrative burdens in low-risk supply chains?
3. Could Finland's current forest monitoring system be recognised as fulfilling EUDR due diligence requirements in low-risk countries in order to reduce administrative burden?

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