

**Question for written answer E-003685/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Alexander Bernhuber (PPE)

Subject: Decision-making process and evidence base behind the exclusion of French Guiana from Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 (EU Deforestation Regulation)

The explanatory memorandum to Commission communication COM(2026)0661 states that unnamed ‘stakeholders have warned’ about the impact of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) in French Guiana, yet provides no impact assessment and no data on forest loss, trade flows or compliance costs.

1. What figures does the Commission hold on (a) annual forest loss in French Guiana since 2020, (b) the area of agricultural clearing planned until 2040, (c) the volume of EUDR commodities traded with Brazil and Suriname, and (d) the volume shipped to the rest of the EU? If it holds none, on what factual basis was the proposal drafted?
2. What annual compliance costs and how many due diligence statements did the Commission estimate for operators in French Guiana, and how do these figures compare with the costs imposed on farmers and forest owners in low-risk Member States?
3. France already uses a derogation under the Renewable Energy Directive allowing biomass from forest clearing in French Guiana to bypass sustainability criteria. Has the Commission assessed the combined effect of this derogation and the EUDR exclusion on deforestation, and if not, why not?

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