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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(6.8.2025)

The Commission follows closely the status of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in the EU. From 1 January 2025 until 26 May 2025, Member States have notified 244 outbreaks of HPAI in poultry establishments and more than 12,6 million poultry have been affected in those outbreaks. Poland notified 85 HPAI outbreaks in poultry establishments¹ representing 35% of the EU's total number of outbreaks. More than 8 million of poultry have been affected in the infected establishments in Poland, that represents 63,5% of the total number of poultry affected in the HPAI outbreaks in the EU. The Commission is paying special attention to this serious situation and keeps regular contact with the Polish authorities, in particular as regards disease control measures.

Poland has faced specific difficulties with the control of the disease in certain areas of high density of poultry establishments. As consequence of that situation, following technical discussions with the Commission, the Polish competent authorities are implementing certain additional reinforced national measures in the zones of concern aiming to contain disease spread. These measures were presented at the Standing Committee of Plants, Animals Food and Feed² and they operate within the framework of EU rules³, including regionalization measures where movement restrictions apply.

In view of the evolution of the disease situation, the Commission adopted several Implementing Decisions⁴ that lay down restrictions, amending the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2023/2447⁵.

¹ https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/3628d24e-53ea-4ee7-a121-99bcf304a223_en?filename=reg-com_ahw_20250521_pres-15.pdf.

² https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/2f28853a-4693-4f9a-aca3-ee464dc2cdac_en?filename=reg-com_ahw_20250328_pres-18.pdf.

³ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law') (OJ L 84, 31.3.2016, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/429/oj>).

³ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 of 17 December 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council, as regards rules for the prevention and control of certain listed diseases (OJ L 174, 3.6.2020, p. 64, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/687/oj).

⁴ Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/821 http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2025/821/oj; Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/858: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2025/858/oj, Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/896: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2025/896/oj.

⁵ http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2023/2447/oj.