

EN

E-004206/2025

Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.3.2026)

As referred to in the reply to E-004261/2025¹, there is currently no approved sheep and goat pox (SGP) vaccine in the EU. Nonetheless, the Veterinary Medicinal Products Regulation² allows Member States' competent authorities to use a vaccine not authorised within the Union.

To date Greece has been implementing the mandatory SGP control measures laid down in Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687³ as well as the measures laid down in Commission Implementing Decision 2024/2207⁴ including the immediate killing of all animals of listed species in the affected establishments, along with biosecurity measures and establishment of specific restricted zones.

Vaccination against SGP is not mandatory. The decision to implement SGP vaccination rests with the competent authorities of the MS concerned in line with Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/361⁵.

The Commission (along with EU Veterinary Emergency Team⁶ experts) has repeatedly indicated the need to consider vaccination as a supplementary control measure for SGP, in view of the current epidemiological situation and is doing everything within its power to support Greece in reaching a decision on this.

In case Greece decides to implement SGP vaccination, the Commission can also arrange the donation of vaccines from the EU SGP vaccine bank, upon request.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004261-ASW_EN.html.

² Regulation (EU) 2019/6 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on veterinary medicinal products and repealing Directive 2001/82/EC (OJ L 4, 7.1.2019, pp. 43–167) <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/6/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, pp. 64–139) http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/687/oj.

⁴ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2024/2207 of 29 August 2024 concerning certain emergency measures relating to sheep pox and goat pox in Greece (OJ L, 2024/2207, 30.8.2024), http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2024/2207/oj.

⁵ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/361 of 28 November 2022 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council as regards rules for the use of certain veterinary medicinal products for the purpose of prevention and control of certain listed diseases (OJ L 52, 20.2.2023, pp. 1–42) http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2023/361/oj.

⁶ https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-diseases/veterinary-emergency-team_en.