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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
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At EU level, Regulation (EU) 2016/429¹ and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687² regulate sheep pox and goat pox. In Romania, Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/1108³ introduced additional temporary emergency measures including a restriction on the movement of sheep and goats from the entire territory of Romania to other Member States or third countries, considering that the disease situation is uncertain and deteriorating. Preliminary surveillance results in May-June 2026 identified seropositive establishments outside the currently existing restricted zones, indicating possible wider circulation of the disease. The Commission works with Romania on further eradication measures, including emergency vaccination.

The EU has introduced several tools to strengthen the farmers position in the food chain. Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013⁴ reinforces written contracts, cost-based price formulas and mediation. Directive (EU) 2019/633⁵ on unfair trading practices is being revised, to address cases where farmers are forced to systematically sell below production costs, while maintaining the Common Agricultural Policy market orientation.

The Commission may adopt exceptional support measures for market losses due to restrictions imposed for disease control. Under Regulation (EU) 2021/2115⁶, countries may amend their CAP Strategic Plans to provide crisis payment and support investments to restore agricultural production after animal disease outbreaks, and grant aid in line with EU State aid rules.

¹ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/429/oj>.

² http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/687/oj.

³ http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2026/1108/oj.

⁴ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/1308/oj>.

⁵ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/633/oj>.

⁶ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2115/oj>.