

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-003874/25
to the Commission
César Luena (S&D)
(2 October 2025)**

Subject: Delay in implementing the Deforestation Regulation and management of IT system failures

The Commission has announced that it intends to once again postpone the Deforestation Regulation's date of application, citing the risk that the information system for managing traceability and operators' due diligence statements could collapse.

According to the Commission, the system will not be able to support the expected load, which could lead to serious and protracted disruptions that would prevent operators from fulfilling their key obligations.

1. What criteria and technical conditions did the Commission use to develop an IT system that is incapable of supporting the expected operational load and turns out to be unusable for meeting the objective it was designed for — namely, implementing the Deforestation Regulation effectively?
2. When did the Commission — including the responsible Commissioner and Director-General — become aware that the information system would not be operational in time, and what was done to mitigate and reverse the situation once the technical failures had been identified?
3. Why was this critical information not communicated to either Parliament or the Member States in advance or in a transparent manner, but only after the political decision was taken to postpone the regulation's date of application?

Submitted: 2.10.2025

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(22 January 2026)**

The Information System is an independent module of the Trade Control and Expert System ⁽¹⁾ platform, established by Regulation (EU) 2017/625 ⁽²⁾.

It adheres to the protection-by-design and protection-by-default principles, ensuring the high level of security and privacy from the outset, following strictly Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2017/46 of 10 January 2017 ⁽³⁾.

The Commission adhered also to the principles outlined in the communication of the Commission on the Commission digital strategy/Next generation digital Commission ⁽⁴⁾.

Stakeholders brought information to the attention of the Commission during summer 2025 on their planned number of interactions with the Information System, and the use of automated transactions for the submission of due diligence statements that are expected to trigger a multiplicity of hits to the Information System and to impact the load significantly.

After verifying the information and conducting a substantial upward reassessment of the projected load of the Information System, the Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy communicated the need to take action to ensure the smooth functioning of the Information System.

The Commission cannot risk potential disruptions to the Information System, which would negatively affect companies and undermine the overall objectives of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) ⁽⁵⁾.

The Commission presented a proposal to amend the EUDR in order to reduce the load on the EUDR Information System and ease the administrative burden for economic operators, while maintaining the regulation's environmental integrity. On 4 December 2025, the co-legislators agreed on the revised EUDR ⁽⁶⁾.

⁽¹⁾ https://food.ec.europa.eu/horizontal-topics/traces_en.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, amending Regulations (EC) No 999/2001, (EC) No 396/2005, (EC) No 1069/2009, (EC) No 1107/2009, (EU) No 1151/2012, (EU) No 652/2014, (EU) 2016/429 and (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulations (EC) No 1/2005 and (EC) No 1099/2009 and Council Directives 98/58/EC, 1999/74/EC, 2007/43/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC, and repealing Regulations (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 89/608/EEC, 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 91/496/EEC, 96/23/EC, 96/93/EC and 97/78/EC and Council Decision 92/438/EEC (Official Controls Regulation), OJ L 95, 7.4.2017, pp. 1-142.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2017/46 of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission, OJ L 6, 11.1.2017, pp. 40-51.

⁽⁴⁾ C(2022) 4388 final, Brussels, 30.6.2022.

⁽⁵⁾ Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 2023 on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation and repealing Regulation (EU) No 995/2010, OJ L 150, 9.6.2023, p. 206-247.

⁽⁶⁾ Regulation (EU) 2025/2650 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2025 amending Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 as regards certain obligations of operators and traders, OJ L, 2025/2650, 23.12.2025.

The new date of entry into application will be 30 December 2026 for all companies except for most micro- or small operators, for which it will be 30 June 2027.

For micro- or small operators already covered by the EU Timber Regulation⁽⁷⁾, the entry into application will be 30 December 2026.

⁽⁷⁾ Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market, OJ L 295, 12.11.2010, pp. 23-34.