

Question for written answer E-012521/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Siôn Simon (S&D)

Subject: Pet passports

In its response to Written Question E-001545/2015 on falsified pet passports, the Commission referred to new rules brought in by Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 which were intended to prevent such practices. Pet passports must now include laminated strips as a security feature. There is now also a stronger legal base for Member States to carry out controls on cross-border movements of pet animals.

Since the new rules came into force, Dogs Trust has published the findings of a second undercover investigation into puppy smuggling. The investigation found evidence of breeders and dealers from Lithuania and Romania continuing to use Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 for the commercial importation of puppies into Great Britain, despite the changes designed to prevent this. Vets in Lithuania and Romania were found to be falsifying data on pet passports by removing and replacing the new laminated strips and filling in the information required with fictitious information.

1. In light of this evidence, what further measures will the Commission take to prevent the falsification of pet passports across Member States?
2. Can the Commission confirm whether all Member States are carrying out controls on the cross-border movements of pet animals, both from other Member States and from third countries?