

**Question for written answer E-003223/2017  
to the Commission  
Rule 130  
Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

**Subject:** Protection of public health in the EU - risk of tick-borne diseases

Tick-borne diseases are of concern for countries in central and eastern Europe, especially Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria and Germany. The matter is becoming particularly worrying as ticks are starting to migrate from woods to cities. More and more often they are also being carried by urban birds, rodents or pets into new human settlements.

Ticks are particularly dangerous to humans, as they transmit a number of diseases, including meningitis, Lyme disease, babesiosis and 30 other diseases which are harmful to health. Those diseases are extremely dangerous, difficult to diagnose and treat, and often fatal. Unfortunately, statistics show that the number of people infected with tick-borne diseases is growing year on year, whilst national or European programmes designed to control increasing risk are practically unheard of.

Is the Commission taking, either alone or in cooperation with Member States, any action to support research on developing diagnostic methods, vaccines or other treatment methods in the field of tick-borne diseases?

Are any European tick-control strategies currently being developed?