

**Question for written answer E-002867/2018/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Sofia Sakorafa (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Need for additional measures for implementation by the Member States of Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 and the option or obligation to introduce specific methods of animal slaughter

The following facts should be noted:

- The Greek Government has adopted Joint Ministerial Decision 951/44337/2017 entitled 'Determination of additional measures necessary for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 with regard to methods of animal slaughter prescribed by religious rites and taking place in slaughterhouses', on the spurious pretext that this was required under the regulation.
- Article 288 TFEU states that a regulation shall have general application and shall be binding in its entirety. No further legislation is therefore necessary, contrary to what is being wrongfully claimed by the Greek Government.
- Under Article 26 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009, Member States are authorised to maintain national rules aimed at ensuring more extensive protection of animals at the time of killing that are already applicable on entry into force of the Regulation.

In view of this:

- Can the Commission say whether mandatory additional national measures are required under Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 for implementation thereof with regard to methods of animal slaughter prescribed by religious rites and taking place in slaughterhouses'?
- Are all Member State required under Article 4 (4) of the Regulation¹ to accept special methods of animal slaughter prescribed by religious rites or it is this left to the discretion of each? Does this mean that the requirement of this article that the animals be slaughtered in a slaughterhouse applies only if a Member State decides to authorise special methods of slaughter?

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2009/1099/oj> 'In the case of animals subject to particular methods of slaughter prescribed by religious rites, the requirements of paragraph 1 shall not apply provided that the slaughter takes place in a slaughterhouse.'