

**Question for written answer E-003149/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Mega pig-farms in the province of Zamora

Mega pig-farms (facilities with around 2 000 animals) first appeared in Spain in Catalonia and Aragon. Now they have spread to the province of Castile and León.

The plan is now to set up one of these companies in a nature reserve in the province of Zamora. The planned site is protected by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance and is also a specially protected area for birds within the Natura 2000 network.

These wholesale-meat production factories are part of a chain that has razed land in the Amazon and the pampas in Latin America, evicting indigenous peoples, often using violent methods, and causing the disappearance of biodiversity, to farm transgenic soya using highly polluting chemical fertilisers and pesticides. Everywhere they set up these farms, they pollute the water, destroy the land, spreading it with slurry, and make the air unbreathable.

Another negative aspect of these types of farms is the mass administration of antibiotics to the animals. This makes bacteria more resistant to antibiotics, and this resistance is already responsible for more than 25 000 deaths a year in Europe.

What steps will the EU take to prevent the construction of these farms?