

**Question for written answer E-000166/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Maria Noichl (S&D)

Subject: Reintroduction of the Asian long-horned beetle (ALB)

If the Asian long-horned beetle (ALB) is to be eradicated throughout Europe, appropriate measures must be taken to prevent its reintroduction. Invasion can be most effectively stopped at its focal point – the point of entry into the EU. Every possible effort must be made at those points to prevent the beetle getting in. Once it is in, the effort and expense of controlling its spread will be immensely greater. From an economic point of view alone, there is an urgent need for action.

In which European ports are inspections for ALB infestation carried out?

Do cargoes that might be infested also reach Europe by rail and if so, at which locations are these cargoes inspected for ALB infestation?

What is known about the occurrence of ALB at the EU's external borders, for example in eastern Europe, about the pathways for its introduction from neighbouring countries and about the spread of ALB within the EU?