

**Question for written answer E-004682/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Situation regarding African swine fever in Sardinia

The Sardinian Regional Government has been implementing measures and arrangements to eradicate African swine fever (ASF) since 1978, with a view to safeguarding a sector that is key to the economy of the island as a whole.

Council Directive 2002/60/EC introduced minimum measures applicable within the Union and, by way of Decision 2005/362/EC, the Commission approved the plan Italy submitted for the eradication of ASF in Sardinia.

Additional protection measures were subsequently introduced under Decision 2014/709/EU. These were applicable, without prejudice to already-approved eradication plans, in Member States concerned by the disease – Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Italy – with reference to the areas specifically defined in the Annex to that decision.

The incidence of ASF has recently declined markedly in Sardinia, and over 450 pig farms are now free of swine fever and certified as complying with biosecurity rules. The entire region has nevertheless been included in Part IV of the Annex to the decision, resulting in an export ban from which no exemptions can be granted.

In the light of the above, can the Commission state what action it will take to ensure that Sardinia is no longer unfairly included among the regions covered by such restrictions?