

**Question for written answer E-003492/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Raphaël Glucksmann (S&D)**

Subject: Timber shortage in the European Union

European sawmills face a serious risk of shortages owing to rising timber exports. Between 2019 and 2020, exports of unsquared logs have doubled, chiefly as a result of demand from Asia. The risk is particularly high for oak, with one in three oaks felled being exported to China.

Russia's ban on timber exports will further aggravate this trend. China, meanwhile, has already banned oak harvesting, while other countries have begun to build up strategic reserves.

1. Is the Commission aware of the risk to European sawmills and the potential consequences for the timber sector as a whole?
2. Does it intend to take the necessary action to address this emergency, including restrictions on timber exports, with a view to protecting the sector?