

**Question for written answer E-005477/2021**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Norbert Lins** (PPE)

Subject: JBS – the largest meat processing company in the world

The largest meat processing company in the world is the Brazilian meat processing company J&F, also known as JBS, and has been widely criticised for its ongoing perpetration of environmental and social destruction and unfair competition. JBS was charged with food safety violations and bribery in the US and was investigated for workers' safety and its deforestation practices. JBS operates 20 slaughterhouses within the Legal Amazon. The company only monitors supplier compliance of its direct supply, while the risks for its indirect supply chain remain unmitigated.

In addition, in April 2021, JBS made a major push into the vegan market and extended its reach in Europe by acquiring Viverra, Europe's third-largest plant-based protein food company.

In the light of this:

1. Is the Commission aware of the criticisms and practices of JBS and of its acquisition of Viverra?
2. Has there been an exchange between the Commission and the US authorities regarding business operations, food hygiene standards and possible impacts on the EU?
3. Would the Commission commit to ensuring a dialogue with Member States and food inspections authorities so that similar infringements that have occurred in places such as the US and South America do not occur in the EU?