

**Question for written answer E-000198/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** African swine fever and the need for rapid and effective measures to support Italian and European pig farmers

The recent detection of the ASF virus in the carcasses of wild boar between Piedmont and Liguria has had serious repercussions on trade in pork from the area consequently subject to restrictions, which do not, however, apply to products from pigs slaughtered elsewhere in Italy. Nevertheless, despite the very high standards observed and the bio-safety measures adopted on Italian pig farms, a number of third countries have already ordered a ban on imports of Italian pork. It is feared that this and other hostile trade measures could wipe out years of dedication to product quality, consumer safety and animal welfare. As OIE members, the third countries in question should have applied the commonly accepted regionalisation principle. Instead, they acted unilaterally without even notifying the WTO.

1. How does the Commission plan to ensure that third countries party to free trade agreements or members of the OIE comply with the relevant provisions, including the regionalisation principle?
2. How will it ensure that third countries impose temporary measures only on areas affected by health restrictions?