

Question for written answer E-000549/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Clara Aguilera (S&D)

Subject: Outbreak of African swine fever (ASF) in northern Italy

On 7 January 2022, Italian veterinary services detected African swine fever (ASF) virus in samples taken from a wild boar carcass found in the north west of the country, known to be home to dense populations of wild boar. This means the virus has made a further leap to reach western part of the European Union.

Spain's pigmeat sector is extremely concerned about this increased risk due to the closer proximity of the outbreak and the fact that the virus has once again demonstrated its ability to jump long distances. It would appear that the Commission's efforts, despite the funds invested, are not yielding the expected results in effectively containing the advance of the virus.

1. What measures are being taken to more closely monitor wild animals and pig farms in response to this new outbreak?
2. Has the Commission amended Regulation 2021/605 to include this new area in Part II of its Annex?
3. What progress has the Commission made in its negotiations for the recognition of regional distinctions by third countries importing pigmeat from the EU?