

**Question for written answer E-001815/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Susanna Ceccardi (ID)

Subject: African swine fever – EU action

African swine fever is a contagious viral disease that affects pigs and wild boar. Animals can pass it between each other by direct contact, meaning that wild boars can host and spread the virus and transmit it to domestic pig herds.

In Italy, cases have been recorded in Piedmont, in Liguria and, most recently, in Lazio.

On Monday, 16 May 2022, the Undersecretary to the Minister for Health said that, given the seriousness of the situation, a red zone – regulating a number of activities and establishing some significant restrictions – would be set up to counter the swine fever outbreak in Rome.

The presence of wild boar in Italy, once limited to some hilly or mountainous areas, has now shot up, including in urban areas, and it is no longer uncommon to see wild boar foraging into town centres, damaging farming businesses.

In view of the above:

1. Given the extent of the phenomenon within Italy and elsewhere in Europe, does the Commission agree that a new approach should be taken to selective sampling of wild animals, one which is more extensive and different from the methods normally authorised, in the outbreak areas alone?
2. Should resources be made available for the collection of carcasses and the installation of the infrastructure needed to demarcate the areas recorded as infected in extermination plans?