

**Question for written answer E-001994/2022  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Annika Bruna** (ID)

Subject: Combating the spread of monkeypox

Monkeypox has already infected dozens of people in Europe and the WHO says the virus will spread more actively.

The symptoms of the disease include headaches, fever, muscle pain, backaches, swollen lymph nodes and often a rash. It can be fatal in very severe cases.

This zoonosis is usually transmitted through direct contact with the blood, body fluids or mucous membranes of a sick animal (monkey, Gambian pouched rat or squirrel). Although rare in Europe, it is well known in West Africa. The first case detected in Europe was in a person who had recently visited Nigeria.

I would therefore like to ask the following questions:

1. Will the Commission do more to combat practices that encourage the development of monkeypox, such as the illegal trade in wild animals and bushmeat, poaching and deforestation in third countries?
2. What measures would it advocate in the event of a monkeypox pandemic?