

**Question for written answer E-003125/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Deforestation and safeguarding competitiveness

In the EU there is, quite rightly, a widespread view that we must protect forests, both in Europe and throughout the world. This is particularly true for tropical forests, which are very important for the global ecosystem. In order to combat climate change and the loss of biodiversity globally, companies must verify that goods sold in the EU have not been produced on illegally deforested land.

We want our partners in developing countries to comply with the climate targets set in the Paris Agreement, particularly when it comes to protecting forests. Developing countries that wish to trade with Europe must do more to combat deforestation, and that is something on which we all agree.

Despite this, the strict measures that are being taken already and those anticipated in the future must not be to the detriment of jobs, and, as a result, to the detriment of European citizens.

What measures will the Commission take to ensure that the new rules to be adopted to protect forests do not create problems for the competitiveness of European companies globally?