

**Question for written answer E-000940/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Margrete Auken (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Compliance with Directive 2008/120/EC on the welfare of pigs

The Commission has previously asked the Member States to establish and update national action plans aimed at preventing the routine tail docking of pigs and to provide quantifiable data to measure the progress made in this area. In a letter to Compassion in World Farming in July 2022, the Commission stated that 'the latest assessment of the abovementioned action plans is currently in progress and the situation is being examined ... to decide on the best way forward.' Moreover, in its scientific opinion adopted on 30 June 2022 on the welfare of pigs on farms, the European Food Safety Authority concluded that tail docking 'is not necessary' if husbandry practices and management are 'appropriate', and recommended that tail docking 'should not be performed routinely'.

1. Will the Commission publish its most recent assessment of the Member States' national action plans?
2. What decisions has it made on the best way forward to ensure compliance with the ban on routine tail docking?
3. Is it prepared to launch infringement proceedings against Member States that fail to make serious efforts to enforce this legislation?

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