

**Question for written answer E-002659/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Gianantonio Da Re (ID)**

Subject: Financial instruments to support forestry businesses in the Veneto damaged by bark beetle infestation

The European spruce bark beetle (*Ips typographus*), is a parasite that attacks the bark of trees, causing them to die off and thereby decimating forests.

In the Veneto region, more than 2 million trees have died, with the highest concentration in the forest areas of the province of Belluno, causing economic damage worth almost EUR 400 million so far. Forestry businesses and the timber market as a whole thus require support in order to prevent both economic damages and the loss of important raw materials.

Can the Commission therefore say:

1. How it intends to support forest protection agencies in combating the bark beetle infestation?
2. Whether it intends to use any specific financial instruments to support forestry businesses and sectors of the economy affected by this infestation?

Submitted: 14.9.2023