

**Question for written answer P-009203/2011
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Peter Jahr (PPE)

Subject: Ban on the conventional rearing of laying hens as from 2012 - current state of implementation

Directive 1999/74/EC of 19 July 1999 stipulates that with effect from 1 January 2012 laying hens in the EU may no longer be reared in unenriched cages. In its answer to Written Question E-001783/11 of 7 April 2011 the Commission referred to the still incomplete nature of the information available to it concerning the state of implementation of that directive, giving as the reason the failure by some Member States to provide the relevant details.

1. Has the Commission now received full information from all the Member States concerning the state of implementation of Directive 1999/74/EC? If not, which Member States have yet to provide the relevant data?
2. According to the information available to the Commission, how many laying hens are still being reared in unenriched cages in the EU?
3. According to the information available to the Commission, how many laying hens are still being reared in unenriched cages in individual Member States?
4. On the basis of the notifications received from Member States, does the Commission still take the view that all the provisions of Directive 1999/74/EC can be implemented throughout the EU by 1 January 2012? If not, what measures does the Commission plan to take to deal with eggs not produced in accordance with EU law, in particular given that such eggs may not be sold on the European market?