

**Question for written answer P-003469/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Kent Johansson (ALDE)

Subject: Pigs Directive 2008/120/EC

Since 2010 the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) has carried out 17 inspections in Member States of compliance with the EU Pigs Directive 2009/120/EC as regards environmental enrichment and the ban on tail docking. The FVO noted breaches concerning the provision of straw for pigs and instances of tail-docking at 12 of these inspections (in Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France and Italy in 2010, and in Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Austria in 2012). At three inspections no breaches were reported and only in two cases (Luxembourg and Sweden) were the inspectors able to note full compliance with the directive.

1. In view of the FVO inspections in a majority of Member States into the provision of manipulation material for pigs and the practice of tail-docking, does the Commission consider that breaches or infringements of the directive take place in most Member States?
2. Does the Commission consider, in the light of the FVO's inspections, that the trade in pigmeat within the EU is taking place on a level playing field and in accordance with the Treaties?
3. When will the Commission impose penalties against those Member States in which routine breaches of the Pigs Directive 2008/120/EC have been shown to take place?