

EN

P-001223/2021

Answer given by Ms Kyriakides  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(8.4.2021)

1. The Commission has been informed before the equine herpes virus-1 (EHV-1) outbreak was declared on 24 February 2021<sup>1</sup>, and has since been in contact with the Spanish authorities and the International Equestrian Federation (FEI). On 19 March 2021, FEI confirmed two dead horses in Belgium, five in Germany and ten in Spain. Denmark, France, Italy, Slovakia, Sweden and Qatar confirmed related cases. A timeline of events has been published<sup>2</sup> and the Spanish authorities have issued a quarantine protocol<sup>3</sup>. The FEI put all their competitions in Europe on hold until 11 April 2021.

2. Equine Rhinopneumonitis is not a notifiable disease in the European Union and thus not an immediate target for the Community Veterinary Emergency Team established under Commission Decision 2007/142/EC<sup>4</sup>.

3. Neither Regulation (EU) No 652/2014<sup>5</sup>, nor the retroactive effect of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Programme for Single Market<sup>6</sup>, provide for a legal basis to assist Member States or to support the equine sector in case of the occurrence of EHV-1.

Equine Rhinopneumonitis occurs regularly in Member States and globally<sup>7</sup>. The best prevention is biosecurity and vaccination, although none of the vaccines guarantees full protection against EHV-1.

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://inside.fei.org/system/files/Nota%20Rinoneumonitis%20equina%2024\\_02\\_2021%20FINAL.pdf](https://inside.fei.org/system/files/Nota%20Rinoneumonitis%20equina%2024_02_2021%20FINAL.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://inside.fei.org/fei/ehv-1/timeline>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/ganaderia/temas/sanidad-animal-higiene-ganadera/protocolorinoneumoniaequinajunio2020\\_tcm30-535814.pdf](https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/ganaderia/temas/sanidad-animal-higiene-ganadera/protocolorinoneumoniaequinajunio2020_tcm30-535814.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 62, 1.3.2007, p. 27.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 189, 27.6.2014, p. 1.

<sup>6</sup> COM/2018/441 final - 2018/0231 (COD).

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4915/12/1/23/htm>