



Update on the animal health situation in the European Union



26 March 2026

Outline

1. Foot and mouth disease (FMD)
2. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)
3. Infection with Newcastle disease virus (ND)
4. African swine fever (ASF)
5. Infection with rabies virus
6. Infection with lumpy skin disease virus (LSD)
7. Sheep pox and goat pox (SPGP)
8. Infection with peste des petits ruminants virus (PPR)
9. West Nile fever

FMD situation in the EU

FMD 2025-2026 overview

Germany (January 2025):

- 1 outbreak of FMD serotype O
- Detected in water buffalo near Berlin
- Linked to strains circulating in Türkiye
- The outbreak was contained without secondary spread, and Germany regained its FMD-free status

Slovakia and Hungary (March–April 2025):

- 11 outbreaks of FMD serotype O
- Detected in cattle along the Danube border area
- The virus was traced back to strains from Pakistan
- Coordinated measures in Slovakia, Hungary, and neighboring Austria ensured successful containment, preventing further spread

In **February 2026** FMD has been notified in **the Republic of Cyprus (ongoing)**

In **March 2026** FMD has been notified in **the island of Lesbos in the Hellenic**

4 **Republic (ongoing)**

FMD in the EU in 2026



EU Measures and Support

- **Cyprus island (46 outbreaks) - FMD-SAT1:**
 - three Implementing Decisions (regionalisation)
 - three EUVET missions on-the-spot and
 - coordinated diagnostic confirmation via the EURL.
 - dispatch of over 1 Million doses of vaccine from the EU vaccine bank
- **Greece - FMD-SAT1 (5 outbreaks in Lesvos island) :**
 - one interim Implementing Decisions (regionalisation)
 - one EUVET mission on-the-spot
 - coordinated diagnostic confirmation

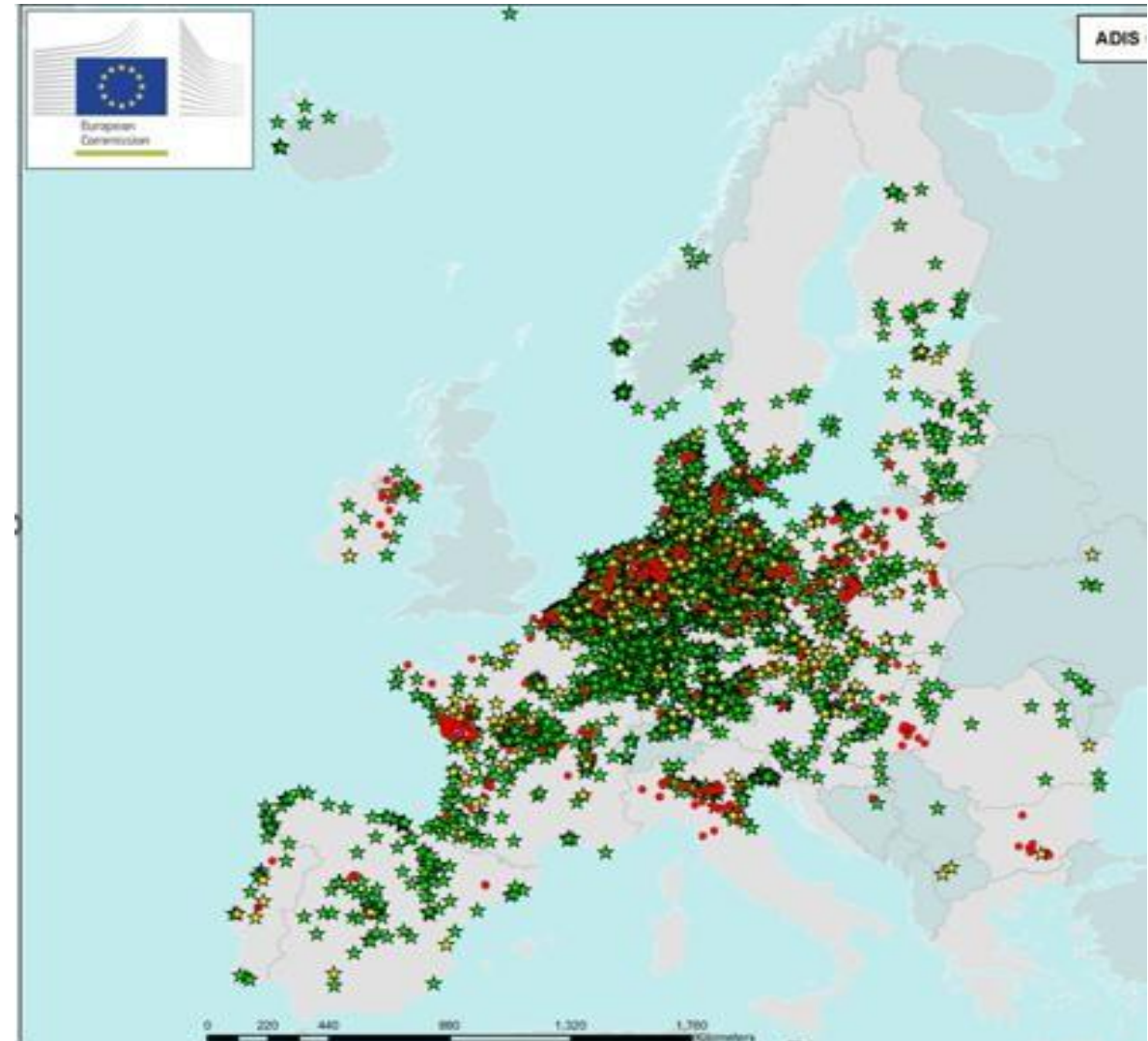
HPAI situation in the EU



Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)

2025-2026 season

- Outbreaks in kept birds (poultry and captive birds) continue to follow the seasonal peaks in autumn and spring, coinciding with wild birds migration
- No. of outbreaks **1/10/2025 – 25/03/2026**:
 - **654 in poultry**
 - **196 in captive birds**
 - **5,581 in wild birds**



Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)

- The most affected **wild bird** species - **Common Cranes** - during the autumn 2025 migration (**events of mass mortality**)
- Outbreaks in **poultry** were clustering in particular in **Germany** and **Poland**, mainly affecting **ducks** and **turkeys** in high density areas for poultry production.
- The disease situation in **poultry** in **France** was significantly less severe comparing with the epidemic seasons - due to **preventive vaccination of ducks**



Vaccination against HPAI can be an effective complementary tool for the prevention and control of this disease.

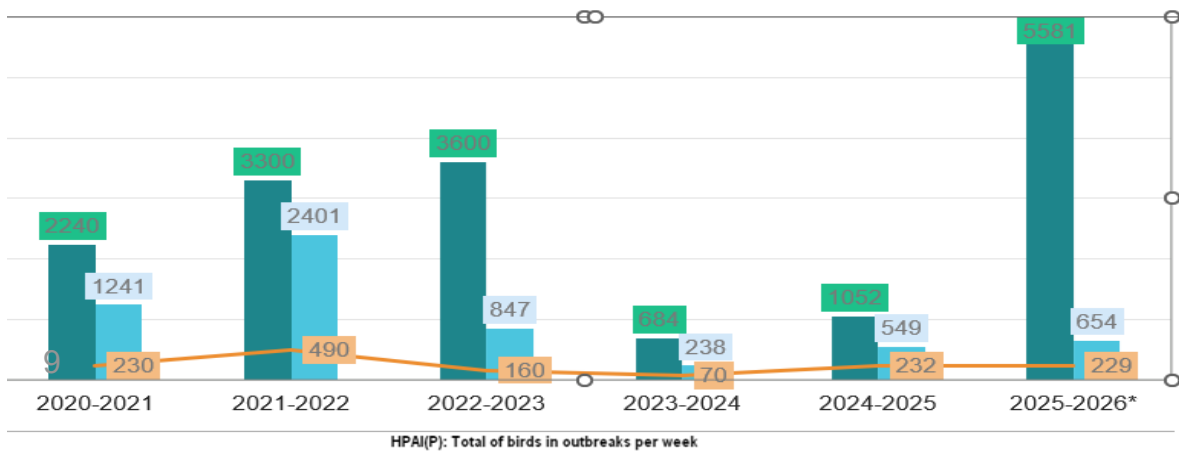
Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)

EU Measures and Support

EU regionalisation (No. of Decisions updating Annex to Implementing Decision 2023/2447): 31 in 2025, 11 in 2026 so far.

Updates of lists of third countries No. of Regulations amending Annexes to Regulation 2021/404 mostly for Canada, UK and US: 33 in 2025, 11 in 2026 so far.

Summary of HPAI epidemic seasons



Guidance document issued by the Commission and agreed with the CVOs outlining potential prevention, preparedness and response actions in case of detection of HPAI in animals other than birds, and food.

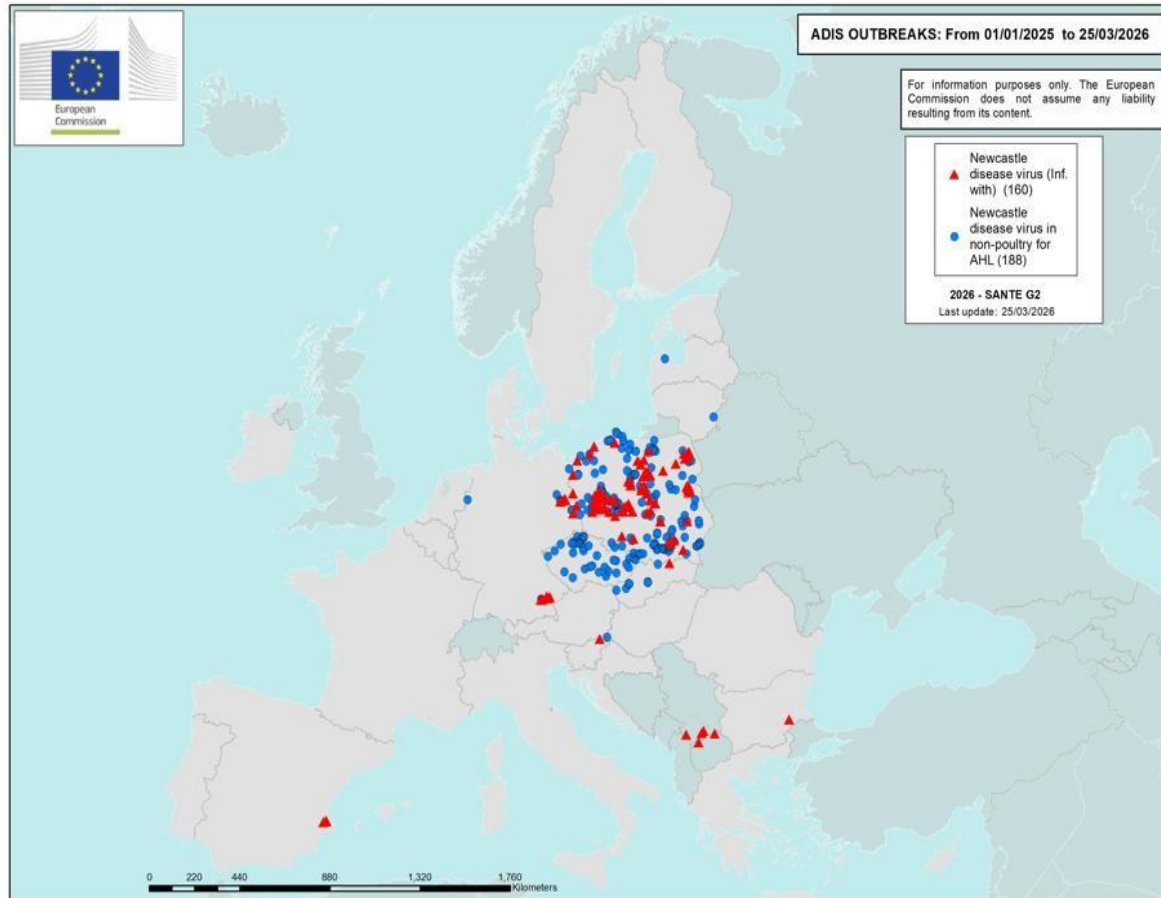
EFSA support:

- (i) Ongoing mandate to EFSA/ECDC/EURL for periodical overviews of the HPAI situation in the EU and worldwide
- (ii) HPAI biosecurity awareness campaign, co-branded by SANTE (first materials delivered in September 2025, full campaign launched on 15 March 2026).

ND situation in the EU



Infection with Newcastle disease virus (ND)



- **Poland** – in 2024 two areas in the Eastern part of the country; by end of 2025 kept birds across the whole country affected: **140 outbreaks** more than **13 million poultry**, mostly **chicken broilers**
- **28 outbreaks have detected in 2026 in Poland despite the introducing in May 2025 of a national legal obligation for preventive vaccination in poultry establishments**
- **Increasing detections in poultry and captive birds in Member States neighbouring Poland**
 - **most significant change in Germany where 32 outbreaks** have been detected in the last month, clustering in two distinct areas

Infection with Newcastle disease virus (ND)

EU Measures and Support

- **EUVET mission deployed in April 2025 to Poland**
- **Emergency measures for Poland taken by the Commission in November 2025, mainly concerning regionalisation (Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/2256)**

ASF situation in the EU

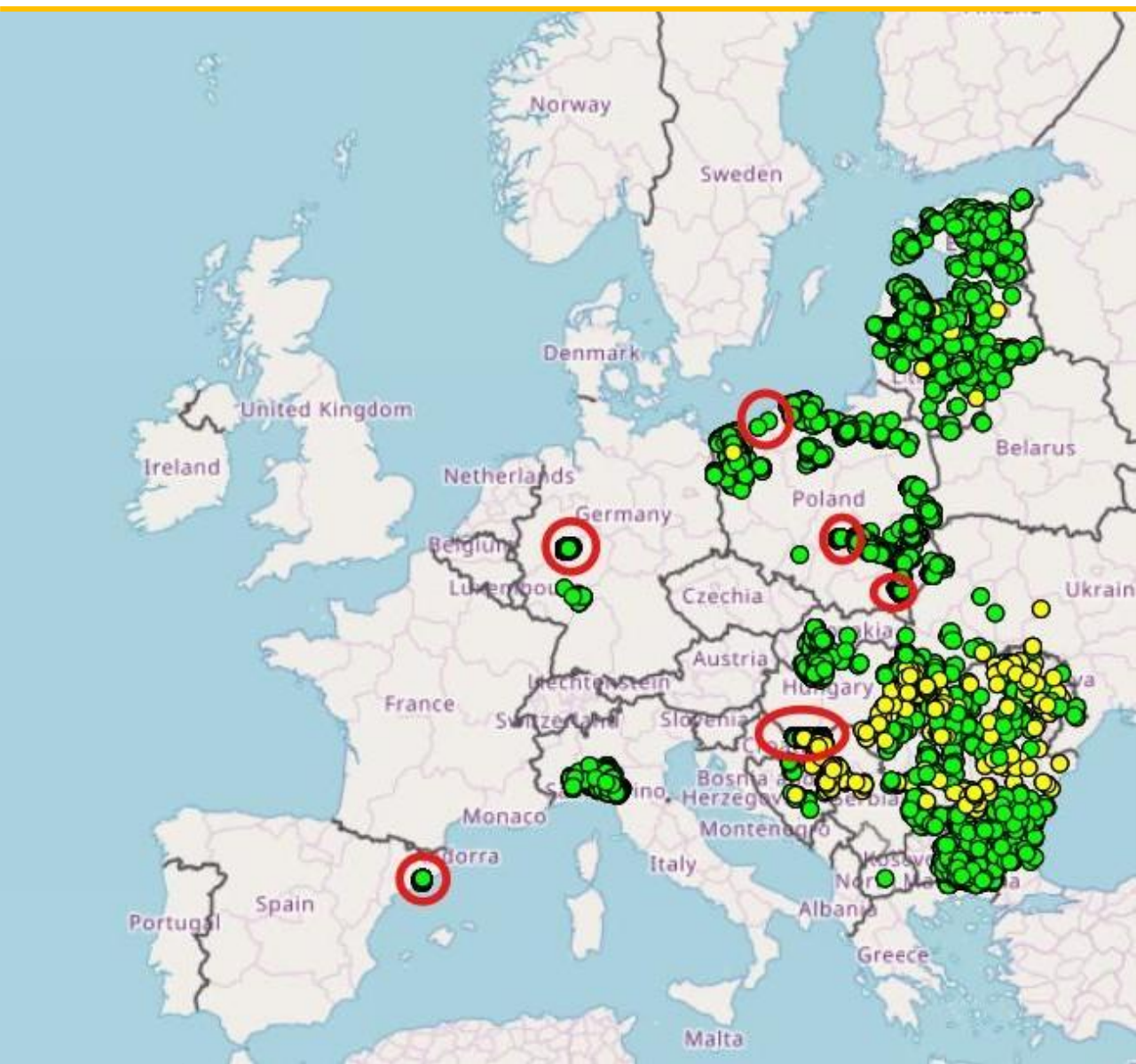


African swine fever (ASF)

- **Spain, Barcelona Province**, in the Autonomous Community of Catalonia: **end of November 2025, the first outbreak in wild boar**; 40 outbreaks since the beginning of the outbreak there
- **Poland and Hungary**: since **September 2025** new areas where ASF in **wild boar** was detected
- **Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Romania**: in the period between May and September 2025 outbreaks in **domestic pigs (in Lithuania and Latvia until the end of the year** in large commercial establishments; in Romania the higher number of outbreaks throughout the whole year)
- **EUVET missions** were organised in **Spain in December 2025** and in **Poland in February 2026**, to support the Competent Authority of those Member States

African swine fever (ASF)

- ASF outbreaks in **wild boar** and **kept pigs**
- September 2025 –
- 25 March 2026
- Newly affected areas indicated by a red circle



Rabies situation in the EU



Infection with rabies virus



- Resurgence and re-incursions **along the borders with Ukraine and Moldova (endemic zones)**
- Since 1 January to 25 March 2026, rabies outbreaks continued to be mainly detected in **Romania (24)**, and at much lower level in Hungary (1)
- Preventing further outbreaks - **several more years of continued vaccination** to create **buffer zones** at the EU's eastern borders
- **From 2025 to 2027 the EU supports vaccination and surveillance** in Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, and Slovakia, as well as in Kosovo*, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Ukraine

LSD situation in the EU



Infection with lumpy skin disease virus (LSD)

Italy

- The first outbreak in **Sardinia** on **21 June 2025**, followed by a single secondary outbreak in **Lombardy**
- A total of **80 outbreaks** were reported, **the last one on 30 October 2025**
- **Emergency vaccination** started in **Sardinia** in mid-July and was extended to **Valle d'Aosta** due to epidemiological links with **France**.
- No further outbreaks have been detected since completion of vaccination and the situation has steadily improved

France

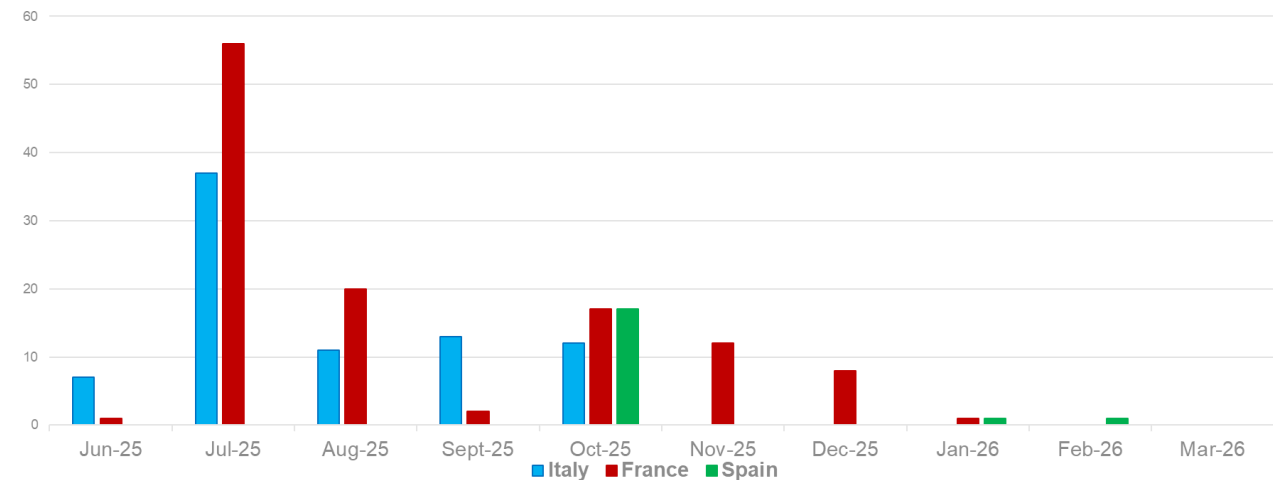
- The first outbreak in **Savoie** was detected on **29 June 2025**
- The disease spread to several departments in **Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes**, **Bourgogne-Franche-Comté** and **Occitanie**
- A total of **117 outbreaks** were reported, **the last one on 2 January 2026**
- **Vaccination** has progressively expanded beyond restricted zones, and the number of new outbreaks has markedly declined

Infection with lumpy skin disease virus (LSD)

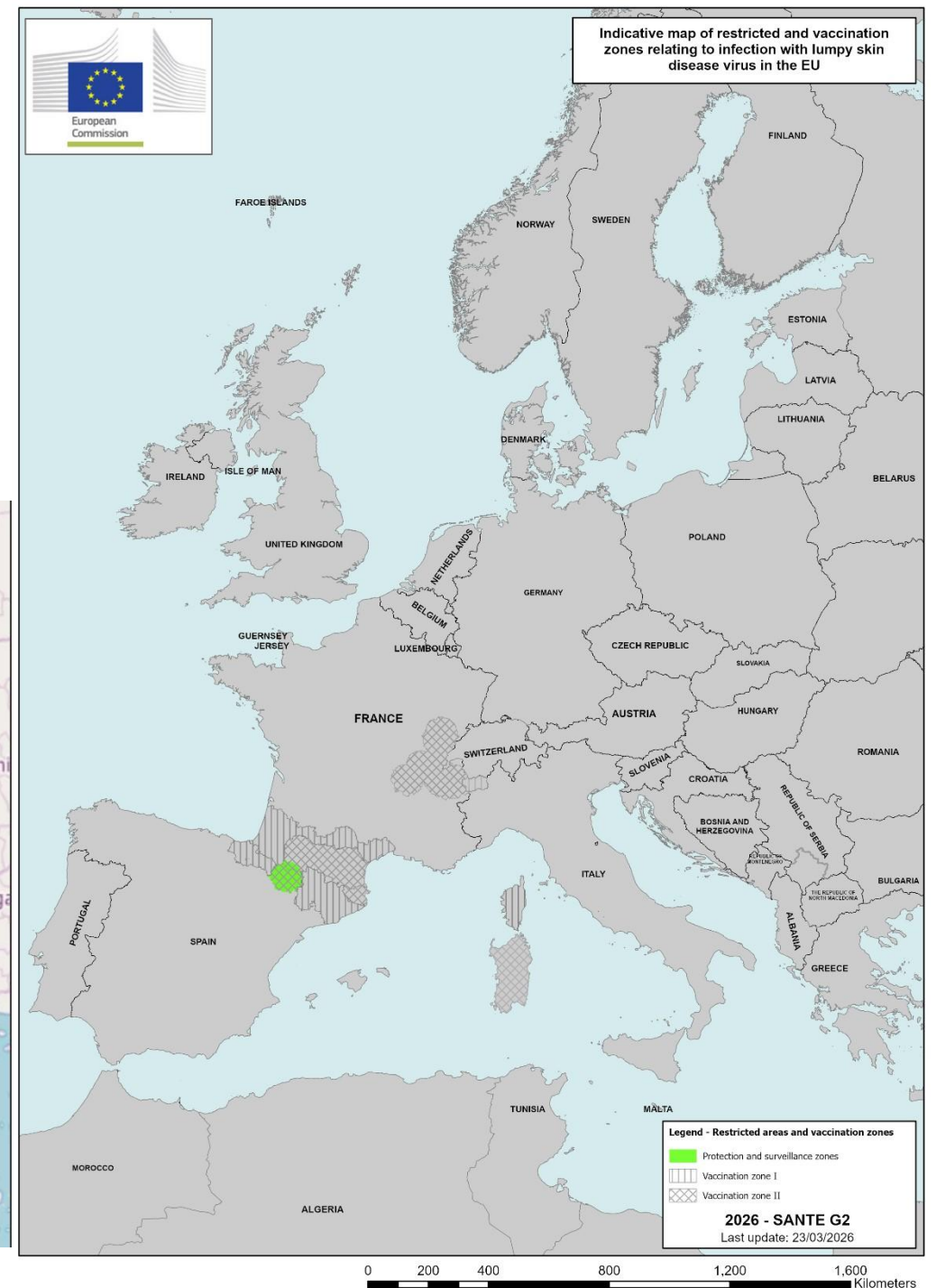
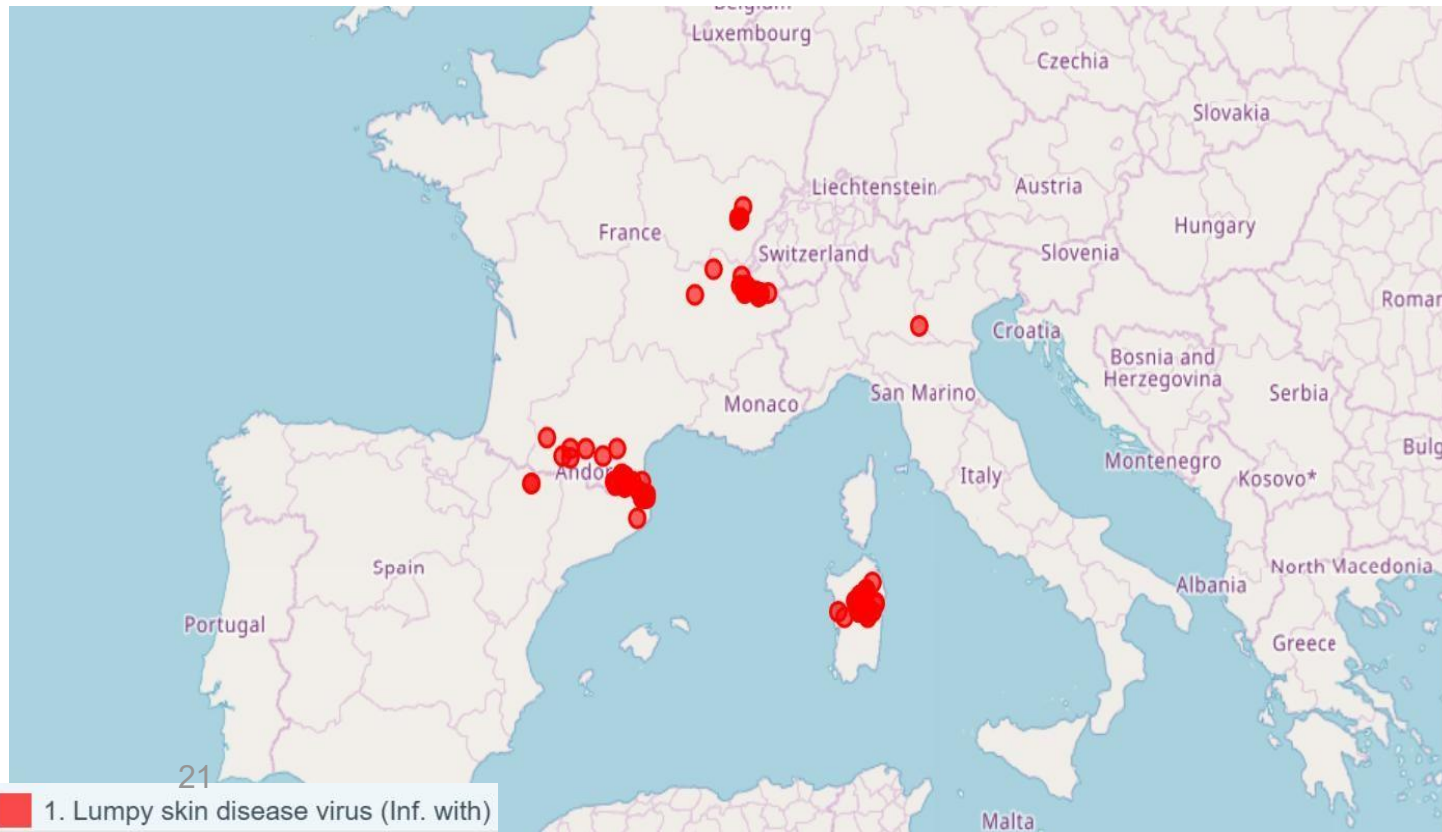
Spain

- The first outbreak was detected on **4 October 2025** in **Catalunya**, close to the French border
- A total of **20 outbreaks** have been reported, **the last one on 3 March 2026**
- The disease remains confined to the **restricted zone in Girona with two isolated outbreaks in Aragon**
- **Vaccination** is implemented along the border with France, and the epidemiological situation is now stable

Number of new LSD outbreaks per month in the EU
(June 2025 – 25 March 2026)



Infection with lumpy skin disease virus (LSD)



Infection with lumpy skin disease virus (LSD)

EU Measures and Support

- **19 acts in 2025 and 6 in 2026** establishing LSD emergency measures including restricted and vaccination zones
- **EUVET missions (2025):** Italy – 27 & 28 June 2025; France – 15 & 16 July 2025
- Technical and diagnostic support via **the EURL**.
- **Access to the EU Vaccine Bank.** A total of 775,000 doses were delivered from the EU LSD vaccine bank: 340,000 doses to Italy (300,000 for Sardinia and 40,000 for Valle d’Aosta), 352,500 doses to France (of which 2,500 were subsequently transferred to Switzerland, where vaccination was carried out in the surveillance zone linked to the French outbreaks; no outbreaks were confirmed), and 82,500 doses to Spain.
- **EU financial contributions** for eligible eradication and control measures under the Single Market Programme (e.g. stamping out, vaccination etc.)

SPGP situation in the EU



Sheep pox and goat pox (SPGP)

Bulgaria:

- From **May 2025** outbreaks resurged
- **September 2025**: the epidemiological situation suggested interruption of virus circulation, no outbreaks were reported
- **October 2025 - January 2026 - 21 outbreaks** reported. The restrictions were lifted in all regions, except for Plovdiv, which remains under restrictions (17 establishments have not been stamped out due to farmers opposition)

Greece:

- **First months of 2025** sporadic cases
- From **May 2025** outbreaks resurged
- Since **September 2025** the situation further deteriorated - **908 outbreaks** notified; **25 out of 54 Greek regions are affected**
- Greece does not vaccinate against the disease

Sheep pox and goat pox (SPGP)

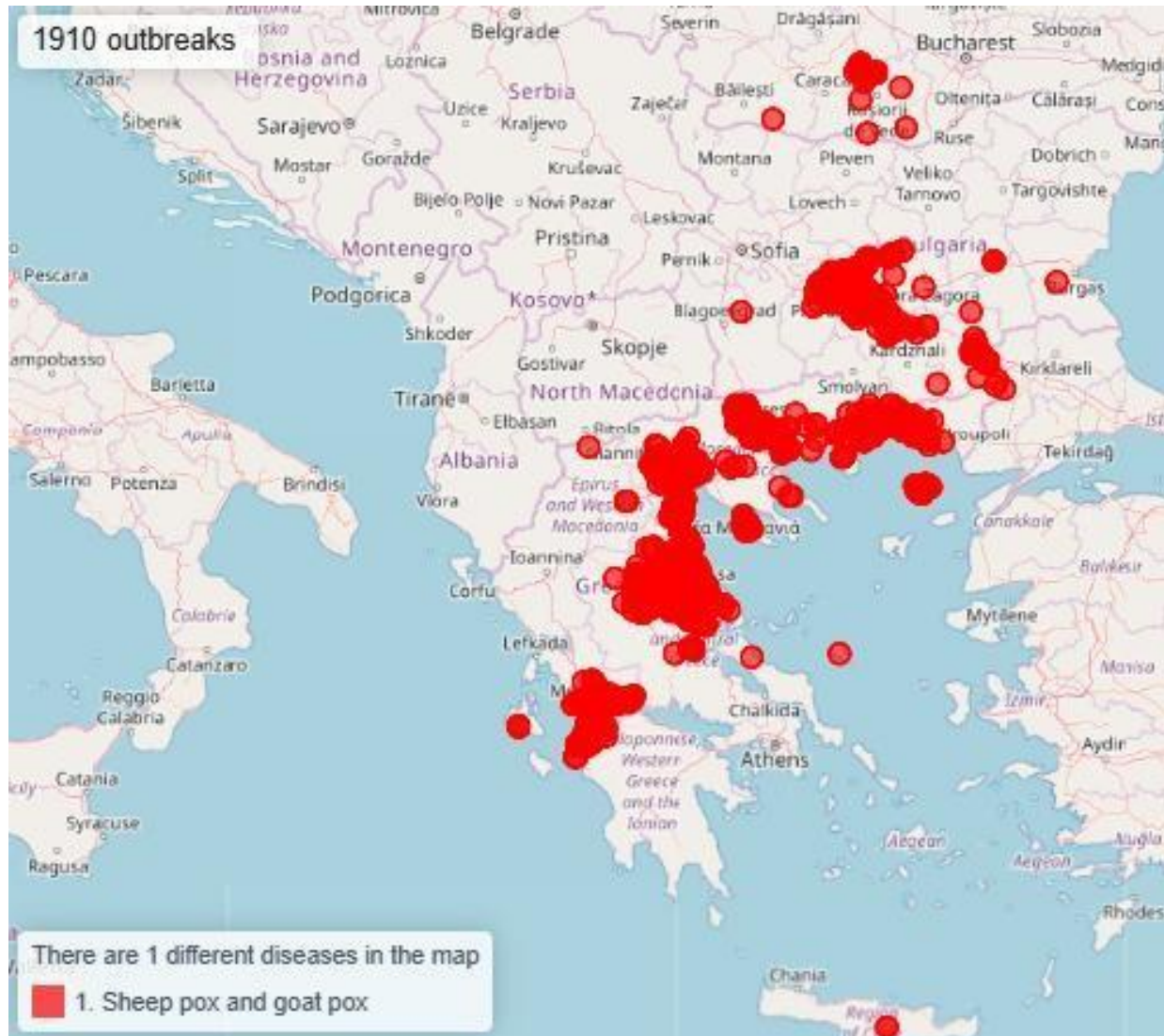
Romania:

- From **May 2025** outbreaks resurged
- **September 2025** - the epidemiological situation suggested interruption of virus circulation, no outbreaks were reported
- **November 2025 - 3 outbreaks** in the same counties. Since then, **no further outbreaks** have been notified and all restrictions have been lifted

Candidate countries:

- **North Macedonia** notified **4 outbreaks** (Jan-Feb 2026)
- An **EUVET mission** was deployed by the Commission to North Macedonia (15 to 18 February) to support the competent authorities

Sheep pox and goat pox (SPGP) 2025



The maps show the outbreaks in the EU:
(1 January to 31 December 2025)

Greece: 1692 outbreaks (27 provinces)

Bulgaria: 191 outbreaks (8 regions)

Romania: 27 outbreaks, (3 provinces)

Sheep pox and goat pox (SPGP) 2026

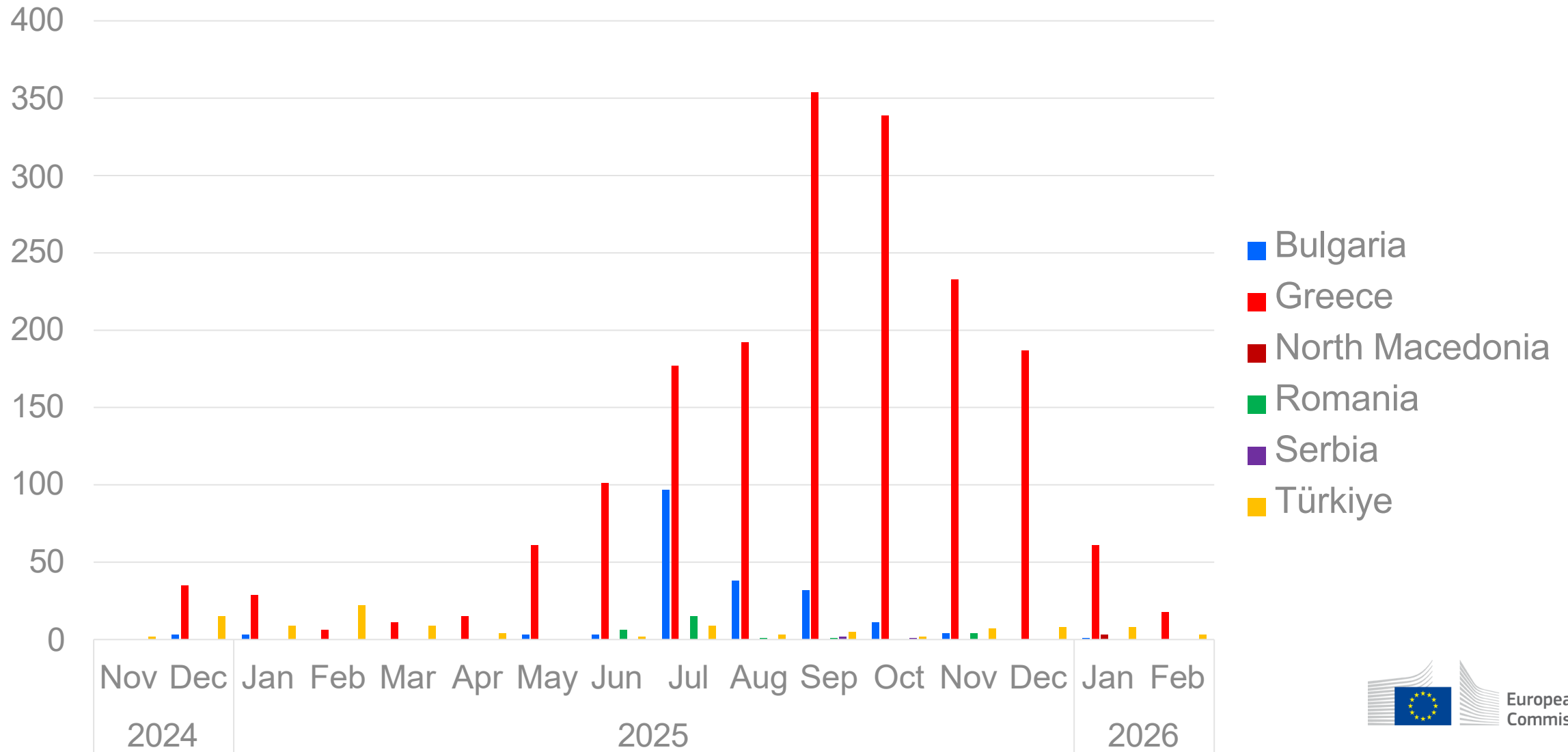


The map shows the outbreaks in the EU:
(1 January to 23 February 2026)

Greece: 110 outbreaks (18 provinces)

Bulgaria: 1 outbreak (Plovdiv)

SPGP - Epidemic curve – reported outbreaks



Sheep and goat pox (SPGP)

EU Measures and Support

- **Control measures:** restricted zones, and total ban on movements of sheep and goats from Greece and Bulgaria. 13 decisions adopted to revise the restrictions since 1 October 2025 to 23 February 2026.
- **EUVET missions (2025):** Greece, 13-16 May 2025
- **EU SPGP vaccine bank:** physical stock of live attenuated SGP vaccines - 2 different vaccine strains (RM65 and Bakirkoy) - no Member State has requested access to the EU vaccine bank
- **EFSA Scientific Report on sheep pox and goat pox vaccines and vaccination scenarios (published on 4 February):** concluded that in addition to the other EU control measures targeted vaccination for achieving eradication is needed

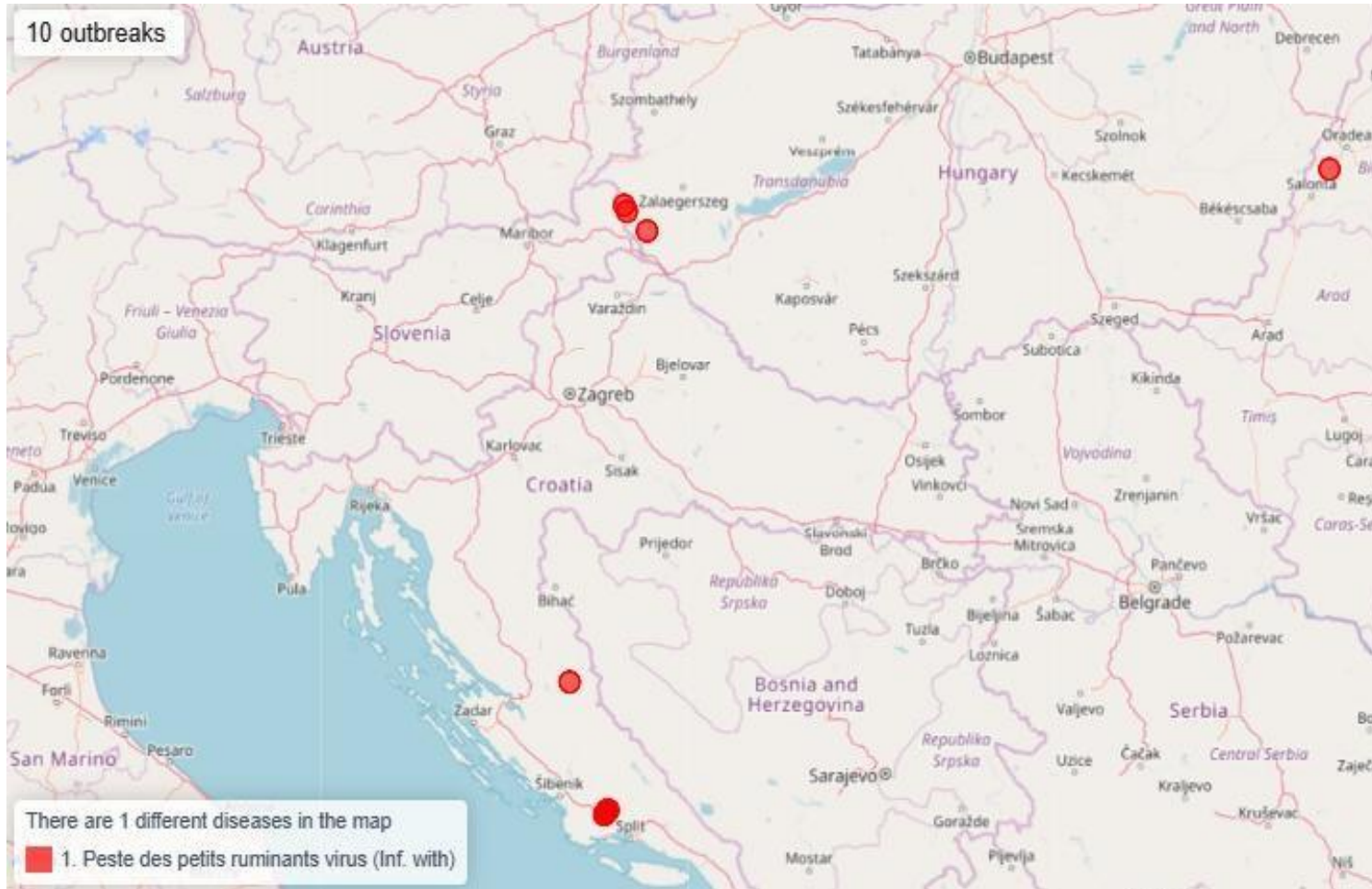
PPR situation in the EU



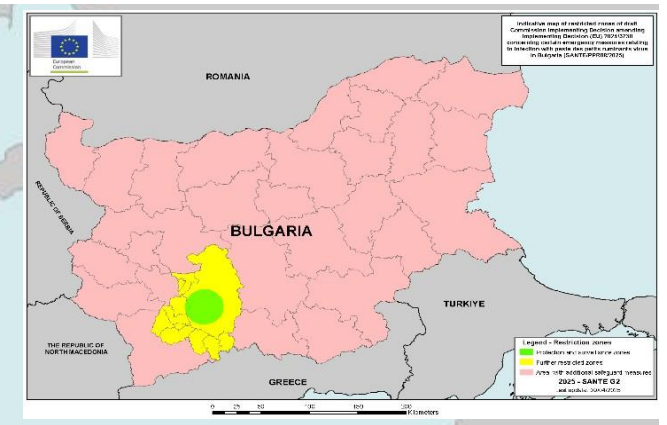
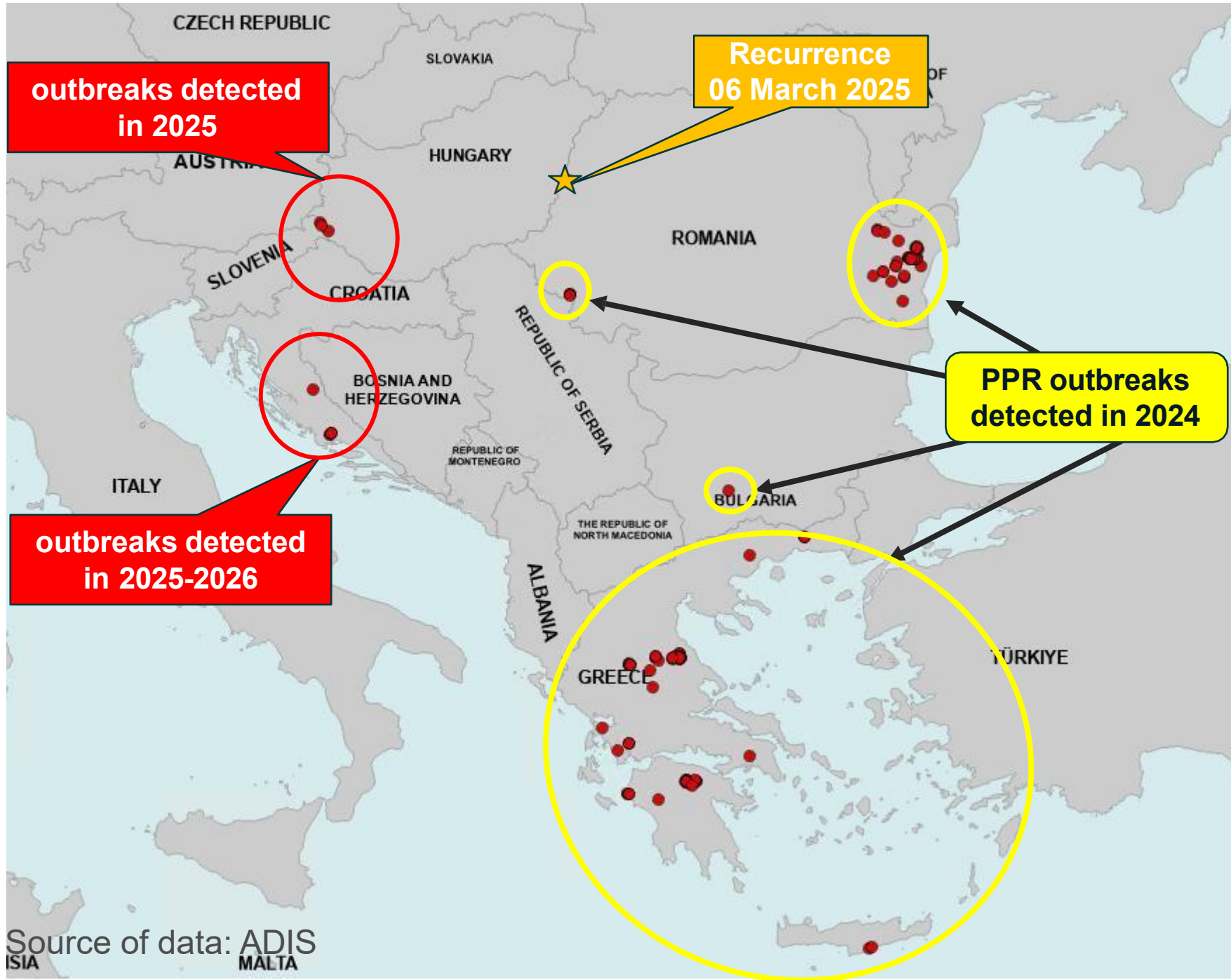
Infection with peste des petits ruminants virus (PPR)

- **Hungary (3 outbreaks)** notified PPR outbreaks in **January & February 2025**, close to the border with Slovenia, connected to animals imported from Romania. Disease contained, all measures lifted
- **Austria** detected PPR in slaughter animals imported from Romania (detected **at the slaughterhouse**, no further spread, no outbreaks reported)
- **Romania (1 outbreak)** notified PPR in **June 2025**. Ban on movements of sheep and goats from the whole country to other Member States (including transit) still in place
- **Croatia (6 outbreaks)** reported the first outbreak of PPR in **December 2025**, the most recent outbreak was reported on **19 February 2026. All restrictions lifted**
- **Albania (14 outbreaks)** notified PPR in **June 2025**. According to official reports the disease was controlled by stamping out of the affected holdings
- **Kosovo* (2 outbreaks)** notified PPR in **July 2025**, close to the border with Albania. No outbreaks reported since

Infection with peste des petits ruminants virus (PPR)



	2025	2026
Albania	14	
Croatia	3	
		3
Hungary	3	
Kosovo*	2	
Romania	1	



- Major epidemics of 2024 swiftly eradicated (Greece 86 – Romania 64) Resolved**
- “Spill overs”**
- 2024 Bulgaria: 1 single outbreak reported in Nov **Unresolved**
 - 2025 Hungary 3 outbreaks reported between Jan –Feb. **Resolved**
 - 2025 – 2026 Croatia : 6 outbreaks. **Resolved**
- No reports of PPR vaccination**

Source of data: ADIS ISIA MALTA

Infection with peste des petits ruminants virus (PPR)

EU Measures and Support

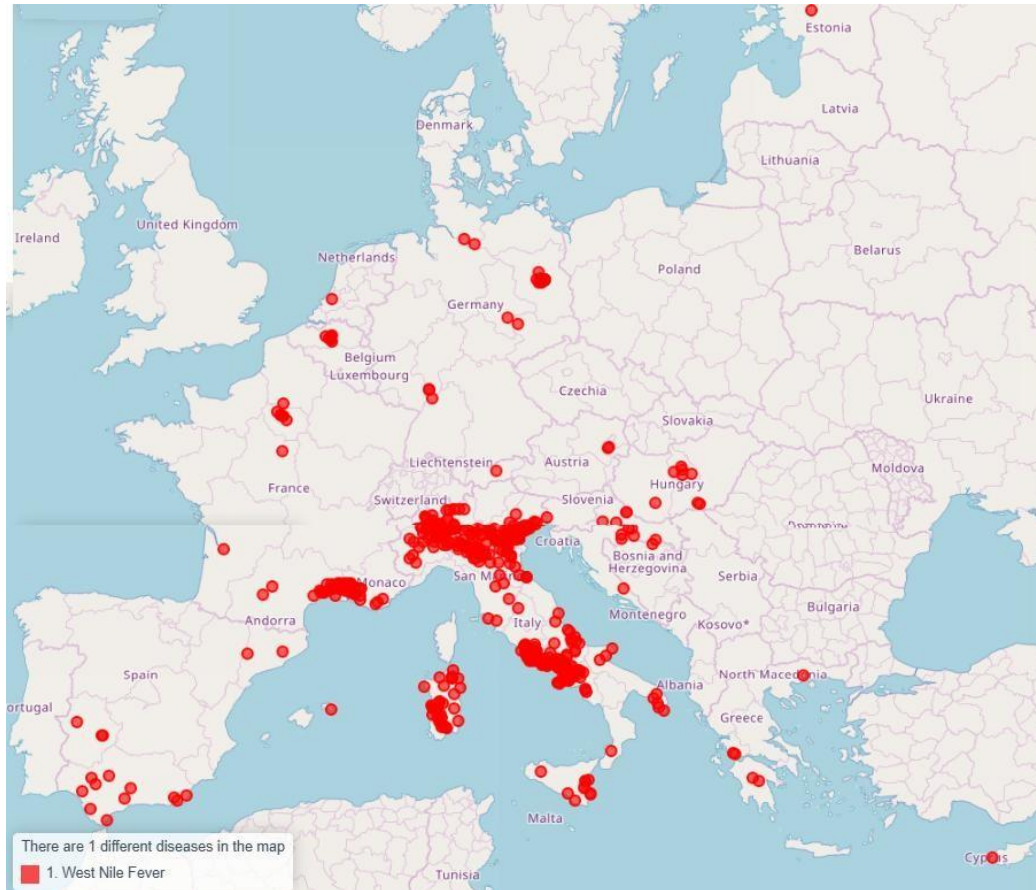
- **Current control measures EU:** restricted zones, total ban on movements of sheep and goats from Romania and Bulgaria despite no more outbreaks notified
- **EUVET missions (2025):** Romania 13-14 March 2025, Albania 12-13 June 2025, Kosovo* 16-17 July 2025
- **EUVET missions (2026):** Croatia (19–22 January 2026)
- **An EU PPR vaccine bank is in place** (physical stock of vaccine doses). No requests received so far.

WNF situation in the EU



West Nile fever (WNF)

Number of outbreaks of WNF in 2025



Virus detection in wild birds and equids in known **high-risk areas** in 12 Member States (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain) associated to high vector seasonal abundance.

First notification in **Estonia** in a wild bird.

ECDC and EFSA are coordinating under the One Health framework to monitor WNF trends across humans, animals (including equids and birds), and vectors.

Questions?

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