

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

**(Open Access)****Bovine Meat Export Readiness in Albania: Production and SPS Compliance Gaps Against EU Certification Criteria**ANGJELINA VUKSANI<sup>1</sup>, BESKIDA DORDA<sup>1</sup>, GJOKË VUKSANI<sup>2\*</sup><sup>1</sup>Barleti University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tourism and Sports, Tirana, Albania<sup>2</sup>Agricultural University of Tirana, Faculty of Agriculture and Environment, Tirana, Albania

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**Abstract**

Bovine meat production in Albania has steadily declined since 2018, indicating a reduced capacity within the sector to meet supply demands. This study evaluates Albania's readiness to integrate into the EU market and the requirements for export certification by analyzing 31 health certification criteria based on EU standards for bovine slaughter (BOV-X/Y family models). The evaluation used a normative-evidence-based audit feasibility framework. The findings reveal a 19.3% decrease in total live-weight meat production from its peak of 161,000 tons in 2018, dropping to 130,000 tons. Notably, more than half of the certification criteria were classified as Not Applicable (NA), highlighting a significant lack of standardized, verifiable, and auditable evidence required for compliance with EU veterinary certification standards. While some partial regulatory alignment is present, it is inadequate. The lack of robust central audit trails, consistent laboratory-confirmed disease surveillance measures, effective residue management systems, and an EU-equivalent register of export-approved slaughter establishments severely undermines the validity of certification. To achieve compliance with the 2030 EU integration timeline and improve the viability of export certification, it is crucial to enhance the legal framework and implement standardized, auditable systems that link evidence to certification.

**Keywords:** bovine animals, health certification, legal approximation, transport welfare, veterinary auditability.

**1. Introduction**

In the context of EU accession, evaluating the cattle sector involves assessing both its economic importance and a country's ability to provide official, documented, and verifiable evidence that supports claims related to animal health and meat safety. As EU regulations continue to evolve, there is an increasing focus on ensuring that every statement in a certificate is backed by verifiable data and audit-ready procedures (European Commission, 2025; Council of the EU, 2024). These requirements are established in Regulation (EU) 2017/625, which governs official controls, and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235, which standardizes animal health certificates, including the specific annexes relevant to bovines intended for slaughter (European Union, 2020; European Union, 2025).

In the Western Balkans, the readiness for sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) compliance often faces structural barriers. These include limited output from reference laboratories, incomplete evidence chains for disease surveillance, inadequate systems for individual animal identification and tracking, fragmented farm structures, and concerns about welfare standards during transportation. These factors are crucial for maintaining certification integrity as required by the EU (EFSA Journal, 2025; WOA, 2025; GIZ, 2025).

The latest report from the European Commission regarding Albania indicates some preliminary progress under Chapter 12. However, it highlights the urgent need for improved implementation and enhanced evidence systems to prepare for the trade of animals for slaughter and meat intended for the EU market (European Commission, 2025; INSTAT, 2024). In this context, gate-entry criteria play a significant role, as they can prevent certification even when basic

veterinary controls are in place (GIZ, 2025; European Commission, 2025).

In the revision of EU animal transport regulations, the European Commission emphasizes enhancing transport conditions and enforcement mechanisms to reduce stress and suffering during journeys, linking these efforts to stricter and verifiable animal welfare standards. (European Commission, 2023).

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Data Origin

This analysis employed 31 comparative criteria derived from a legal harmonization table concerning bovine slaughter. This table compares the requirements of the EU model animal health certificate (BOV-X) with Albanian national legislation in order to facilitate exports to EU countries, which has not been possible until now. The interpretative framework was informed by EU regulations, institutional reports from 2024-2025, and the official standards for cattle health surveillance.

### 2.2. Classification Model

Each criterion was evaluated using a three-tiered compliance scale:

**Full Compliance:** Clear legal provisions are in place with verifiable evidence supporting compliance pathways.

**Partial Compliance:** Regulatory references are available; however, there is a lack of standardized proof systems, adequate verification processes, or established audit trails.

**Not Applicable (NA):** There is no existing national legal framework directly related to the criteria, or there

are deficiencies in the institutional prerequisites required for generating proof.

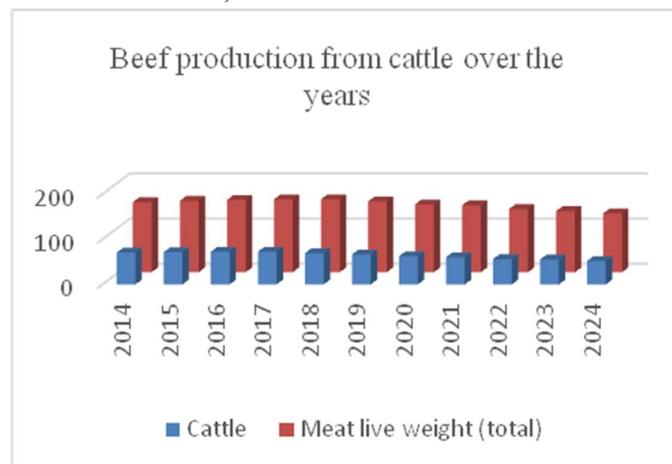
### 2.3. Functional Domains

The 31 criteria were organized into four functional domains relevant to SPS (Sanitary and Phytosanitary) certification:

- Public health, veterinary residue management, and sanitary guarantees
- Animal health status and evidence of notifiable disease surveillance
- Traceability of individual animal identification and movement documentation
- Prerequisites for export gate entry, including approval of slaughter establishments, relevant authorizations, and audit mechanisms.

## 3. Results and Discussion

Meat production, quantified in total live weight, initially experienced a modest uptick, reaching a peak of 161 thousand tons in 2018, an increase from 155 thousand tons and representing a growth rate of +3.9% compared to 2014 levels. However, post-peak, the sector has entered a significant downturn, with projections indicating a decline in production from 161 thousand tons to 130 thousand tons by 2024. This forecast reflects a contraction of  $-19.3\%$  of the peak output. In broader terms, the anticipated production levels for 2024 are estimated to be 16.1% lower than the baseline established in 2014, suggesting a decrease in production capacity and a constrained ability to maintain stable export volumes for the EU market.

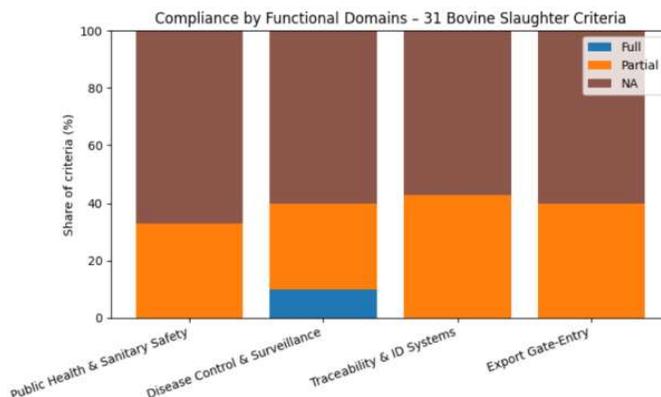


**Figure 1:** Beef Production from Cattle Over the Years (in Thousands of Tons)

### 3.1. Overall level of harmonization

The chart indicates a highly uneven compliance profile across the four functional domains. In three of the four

domains, full compliance is absent, while Not Applicable (NA) remains the dominant outcome.



**Figure 2.** Compliance across 31 EU-style bovine slaughter certification criteria by functional domain (Full/Partial/NA, %).

In the field of Public Health and Sanitary Safety, approximately two-thirds of the requirements are classified as Not Applicable (NA). This indicates that most public health certification guarantees lack a nationally recognized legal evidence pathway for verification. The remaining one-third is only partially covered, suggesting that there are general regulatory controls in place, but they do not adhere to EU-grade proof structures.

When it comes to Disease Control and Surveillance Evidence, nearly 60% of the criteria are also categorized as NA. Conversely, about one-third show partial compliance, meaning that while there are surveillance provisions, they are not supported by standardized outputs such as harmonized reporting frameworks, laboratory confirmation processes, or auditable statuses for zones or farms. Notably, this area contains the only segment demonstrating full compliance, which represents roughly 10% of the criteria, where at least one aspect has both legal framework support and verifiable implementation.

In the area of Traceability and Individual Identification Systems, more than 50% of obligations are marked as NA. This signals a lack of consistent audibility for individual animal evidence trails and movement histories. However, slightly less than half of the requirements indicate partial compliance, suggesting that while identification requirements exist, they have not yet been fully integrated into a comprehensive EU-style audit-proof traceability system.

For Export Listing and Gate Entry Criteria, around 60% of requirements are classified as NA, with nearly 40% showing partial compliance. Notably, this domain does not have any elements of full compliance, indicating that issues related to export listing, establishment approvals, and audit mechanisms represent significant constraints within the certification framework.

In summary, the compliance landscape reveals that many requirements fall short in terms of verifiable national evidence (NA), while partial compliance appears largely fragmented and lacks standardized proof systems or robust audit mechanisms. Full compliance is limited and primarily observed in isolated elements related to disease control, failing to extend systematically throughout the certification process.

### 3.2. SPS Domain Outcomes and Evidence-Based Certification Implications

These findings suggest that Albania's main constraint is not the total absence of veterinary rules, but the gap between legal references and evidence-ready, auditable certification systems.

Where partial compliance appears (often around one-third to just under one-half, depending on the domain), it typically signals that the legal framework contains general obligations or baseline veterinary controls, but lacks the "EU-grade" components needed for certification credibility: standardized procedures,

consistent documentation, laboratory-confirmed outputs, and institutional audit trails.

Where NA dominates frequently more than half, the implication is stronger: either the relevant legal provisions are missing, or the institutional prerequisites needed to prove compliance are not established in a manner that EU certification models can accept.

The fact that Full compliance exists only as a small share (about one-tenth) in the disease-control domain is important: it shows that a limited portion of the system can already meet the combined requirement of law, proof, and auditability, but that this strength is not yet replicated across public health, traceability, or gate-entry mechanisms. Critically, the gate-entry domain is particularly consequential. Even if partial progress exists elsewhere, the persistence of NA at around three-fifths in export listing/approval conditions can prevent certification from operating in practice, because gate-entry criteria function as “pass/fail” prerequisites for market access.

#### 4. Conclusions

Bovine meat production has experienced a significant decline of 19.3% since its peak in 2018, indicating a reduced capacity for supply. The framework for compliance with Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) regulations is primarily affected by non-harmonized outcomes, which represent over half of the total issues. This situation highlights the need for verifiable evidence to meet EU certification standards. Current efforts to align with these standards lack standardized proof systems and effective certification mechanisms. In order to prepare for EU integration by 2030 and to facilitate exports of bovine meat to EU countries, it is crucial to strengthen the legal framework and adopt a harmonized, evidence-based approach to compliance.

#### 5. Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank GPM Consulting for their collaboration on the project "Harmonized Veterinary Certificates in CEFTA." Their support in conducting the SPS gap assessment and providing technical expertise relevant to veterinary certification for bovines intended for slaughter was invaluable. This project helped identify gaps in evidence generation, auditability, and gate-entry requirements, all of which are essential for ensuring the credibility of certificates. Addressing these issues is crucial for strengthening bovine animal health systems and

enhancing Albania's institutional readiness for EU integration.

#### 6. References

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## 7. Appendix A. SPS Compliance Table for Bovine Certification Criteria

	<p><b>MODEL ANIMAL HEALTH/OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE FOR ENTRY INTO THE UNION OF BOVINE ANIMALS INTENDED FOR SLAUGHTER (MODEL 'BOV-Y')</b>  <b>Comission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/403 of 24 March 2021</b>  <b>(Gap analysis in legislation and estimated transposition date)</b></p>	<p><b>Cite for each point corresponding country legislation with clear reference to law (nr and title of law); when no legislation: indicate NA (not applicable)</b></p>	<p><b>Indicate missing legal element (for instance : residue monitoring plan, animal disease notification system, or other, and ask country their estimation of time when it can be included in the law</b></p>
<p><b>European Union requirements</b></p>	<p><b>COUNTRY:</b> <b>ALBANIA</b></p>		
<p><b>II. Health information</b></p>		<p><b>Legal requirements</b></p>	<p><b>Identified gaps, and estimated transposition date (e.g. quarter/year)</b></p>
<p><b>II 1 Public health attestation</b></p>	<p>I, the undersigned official veterinarian, hereby certify that the animals described in this certificate:                      II.1.1. have not received:                      - any stilbene or thyrostatic substances,                      - oestrogenic, androgenic, gestagenic or beta-agonist substances for purposes other than therapeutic or zootechnical treatment (as defined in Council Directive 96/22/EC);</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania."                      Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022).                      Order No. 186 dated 29.03.2023 For the approval of the regulation for the implementation of the national waste monitoring plan for the year 2023, pursuant to Article 81 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania.                      Instruction No. 17, date. 24.09.2021 "On specific hygiene requirements for meat and meat products, including meat products, minced meat, and mechanically separated meat", according to Article 55 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania.                      Order No. 254, dated 11.06.2018 "On the exchange of information between the Veterinary Service and the National Food Authority" regulated the way of communication between the two institutions, according to Article 129 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania".  <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a>  <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>The Republic of Albania has no establishments listed in the EU. It is not in compliance with Directive 96/22/EC);</p>
	<p>II.1.2. fulfil the guarantees covering live animals and products thereof provided by the residue plans submitted in accordance with Article 29 of Council Directive 96/23/EC, and the concerned animals are listed in Commission Decision 2011/163/EU for the concerned country of origin.</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania."                      Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022).                      Order No. 186 dated 29.03.2023, For the approval of the regulation for the implementation of the national residue monitoring plan for the year 2023, pursuant to Article 81 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania.                      Order No. 254, dated 11.06.2018 "On the exchange of information between the Veterinary Service and the National Food Authority", according to Article 129 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania".  <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a>  <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>Albania partially meets the requirements regarding residue plans in accordance with Directive 96/23 EC</p>

	<p>II.1.3. with regard to bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE):</p> <p>(a) The animals are identified by a permanent identification system enabling them to be traced back to the dam and herd of origin, and they are not:</p> <p>(i) BSE cases;</p> <p>(ii) bovine animals which, during their first year of life, were reared with BSE cases during their first year of life, and for which an investigation has shown that they have consumed the same potentially contaminated feed during that period, or</p> <p>(iii) if the results of the investigation referred to in indent (ii) are inconclusive, bovine animals which, during their first year of life, were reared with BSE cases during their first year of life, or were born in the same herd as, and within 12 months preceding or following the date of the birth of, the BSE cases; and</p> <p>(1) either [(b) (i) the animals were born and continuously reared in a country or region or countries or regions classified in accordance with Commission Decision 2007/453/EC as countries or regions posing a negligible BSE risk;</p> <p>(ii) if there have been BSE indigenous cases in the country concerned, the animals were born after the date from which the ban on the feeding of ruminants with meat-and-bone meal and greaves derived from ruminants, as defined in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health, was effectively enforced, or they were born after the date of birth of the last BSE indigenous case if born after the date of the feed ban.]</p> <p>(1) or [(b) (i) the country or region of origin of the animals is classified in accordance with Decision 2007/453/EC as a country or region posing a controlled BSE risk;</p> <p>(ii) the animals were born after the date from which the ban on the feeding of ruminants with meat-and-bone meal and greaves derived from ruminants, as defined in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health, was effectively enforced, or they were born after the date of birth of the last BSE indigenous case if born after the date of the feed ban.]</p> <p>(1) or [(b)</p> <p>(i) the country or region of origin of the animals is classified in accordance with Decision 2007/453/EC as a country or region posing an undetermined BSE risk;</p> <p>(ii) the feeding of ruminants with meat-and-bone meal and greaves from ruminants, as defined in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health, has been banned and the ban has been effectively enforced in the country or region of origin;</p> <p>(iii) the animals were born at least two years after the date from which the ban on the feeding of ruminants with meat-and-bone meal and greaves derived from ruminants, as defined in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health, was effectively enforced, or they were born after the date of birth of the last BSE indigenous case if born after the date of the feed ban.]</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022. Instruction No. 17, date. 24.09.2021 "On specific hygiene requirements for meat and meat products, including meat products, minced meat, and mechanically separated meat", according to Article 55 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a> <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>The legislation of the Republic of Albania is to be brought closer to the legislation of the EU, There is no compliance with Commission Decision 2007/453/EC.</p>
<p><b>II 2 Animal health attestation</b></p>	<p>I, the undersigned official veterinarian, hereby certify that the animals described in Part I:</p> <p>II.2.1. come from the zone with code: ___ - __ (2) which, at the date of issue of this certificate, is authorised for entry into the Union of bovine animals intended for slaughter and is listed in Part 1 of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p>	<p>NA</p>	
	<p>II.2.2. are intended for slaughter in the Union.</p>	<p>NA</p>	
	<p>II.2.3. have remained continuously:</p> <p>(i) in the zone referred to in point II.2.1. since birth or for a period of time of at least 3 months before the date of their dispatch to the Union, and</p> <p>(ii) in the establishment of origin since birth or for a period of time of at least 40 days before the date of their dispatch to</p>	<p>NA</p>	

**Bovine meat export readiness in Albania: production and sps compliance gaps against EU certification criteria**

<p>the Union, into which during this period no bovine animals and no animals of other species listed for the same diseases as bovine animals have been introduced.</p>		
<p>II.2.4. had no contact with animals of a lower health status since birth or at least for 30 days before the date of their dispatch to the Union.</p>	<p align="center">NA</p>	
<p>II.2.5. are not to be killed under a national programme for the eradication of diseases, including the relevant listed diseases referred to in Annex I to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and emerging diseases. (1) either [II.2.6. have been dispatched directly from the establishment of origin to the Union without passing through any other establishment]. (1) or [II.2.6. have undergone one single assembly operation in the zone of origin, fulfilling the following requirements: (a) The assembly operation took place in an establishment: (i) approved for conducting assembly operations of ungulates by the competent authority in the third country or territory in accordance with Article 5 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035; (ii) which has a unique approval number assigned by the competent authority of the third country or territory; (iii) listed for that purpose by the competent authority of the third country or territory of dispatch, including the information set out in Article 21 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035; (iv) fulfilling the requirements provided for in Article 8 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692; (b) The assembly operation in the assembly centre took no longer than 6 days.]</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022). Instruction No. 17, date. 24.09.2021 "On specific hygiene requirements for meat and meat products, including meat products, minced meat, and mechanically separated meat", according to Article 55 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Order No. 254, dated 11.06.2018 "On the exchange of information between the Veterinary Service and the National Food Authority" regulated the way of communication between the two institutions, according to Article 129 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania". <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a> <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>Albania does not comply with the requirements of Annex I of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and new diseases. Albania does not comply with the requirements of Article 5 of the Delegated Regulation of the Commission (EU) 2019/2035; Albania does not comply with the requirements defined in Article 21 of the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035; (iv) fulfilling the requirements provided for in Article 8 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692;</p>
<p>II.2.7. are loaded for dispatch to the Union on ___/___/___ (dd/mm/yyyy)(3) in a means of transport which was cleaned and disinfected prior to loading with a disinfectant authorised by the competent authority in the third country or territory and constructed in such a way that: (i) animals cannot escape or fall out; (ii) visual inspection of the space where animals are kept is possible; (iii) the escape of animal excrements, litter, or feed is prevented or minimized.</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022). Instruction No. 17, date. 24.09.2021 "On specific hygiene requirements for meat and meat products, including meat products, minced meat, and mechanically separated meat", according to Article 55 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Order No. 254, dated 11.06.2018 "On the exchange of information between the Veterinary Service and the National Food Authority" regulated the way of communication between the two institutions, according to Article 129 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania". <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a> <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>Albania does not comply with the requirements of Annex I of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and new diseases. Albania does not comply with the requirements of Article 5 of the Delegated Regulation of the Commission (EU) 2019/2035; Albania does not comply with the requirements defined in Article 21 of the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035; (iv) fulfilling the requirements provided for in Article 8 of Commission</p>

		Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692;
II.2.12. since they were dispatched from their establishment of origin until they are loaded for dispatch to the Union, and during that period, they have not been in contact with animals of a lower health status.	NA	
II.2.8. are loaded for dispatch to the Union on ___/___/___ (dd/mm/yyyy)(3) in a means of transport which was cleaned and disinfected before loading with a disinfectant authorised by the competent authority of the third country or territory and constructed in such a way that: (i) animals cannot escape or fall out; ( ) Visual inspection of the space where animals are kept is possible. (i) the escape of animal excrements, litter, or feed is prevented or minimized.	NA	
II.2.9. have been subjected to a clinical inspection within the 24 hours before loading for dispatch to the Union, carried out by an official veterinarian in the third country or territory of origin, who did not detect signs indicative of the occurrence of diseases, including the relevant listed diseases referred to in Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and emerging diseases	Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022). Instruction No. 17, date. 24.09.2021 "On specific hygiene requirements for meat and meat products, including meat products, minced meat, and mechanically separated meat", according to Article 55 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a> <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a>	It does not comply with Annex I of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and new diseases.
II.2.10. have not been vaccinated against: (i) foot and mouth disease, infection with Rift Valley fever virus, infection with Mycoplasma mycoides subsp. mycoides SC (Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia), Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex (M.bovis, M.caprae and M.tuberculosis), and infection with Brucella abortus, B. melitensis, and B. suis, and (ii) infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) with a live vaccine during 60 days before their dispatch to the Union.	Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022). Order No.175 dated 28.03.2023 "For the approval of the Brucellosis program in cattle", according to Article 16 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Order No. 306, dated 17.05.2023, For "The long-term approval of the control of tuberculosis in cattle", according to Article 16 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania". <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a> <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a>	We will not fulfill the requests with Regulation 2021/404. The legislation of the Republic of Albania is to be brought closer to the legislation of the EU.
II.2.11. come from a zone: II.2.11.1. in which: (i) foot and mouth disease has not been reported for: either [at least 24 months before the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union](1) or [since ___/___/___ (dd/mm/yyyy)](1)(4) (ii) vaccination against foot and mouth disease has not been carried out for at least 12 months before the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union, and no animals vaccinated against foot and mouth disease have been introduced during that period.	Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania." Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022). Order 176 dated 28.03.2023 For the approval of the program of the foot-and-mouth disease, according to Article 16 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania". <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a> <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a>	We will not fulfill the requests with Regulation 2021/404. The legislation of the Republic of Albania is to be brought closer to the legislation of the EU.
II.2.11.2. In which infection with lumpy skin disease virus has not been reported for at least 12 months before the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.	NA	

Bovine meat export readiness in Albania: production and sps compliance gaps against EU certification criteria

<p>II.2.11.3. in which infection with rinderpest virus, infection with Rift Valley fever virus and infection with Mycoplasma mycoides subsp. mycoides SC (Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia) has not been reported for at least 12 months prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union and during that period: (i) vaccination against these diseases has not been carried out, and (ii) animals vaccinated against these diseases have not been introduced.</p>	<p>NA</p>	
<p>either [II.2.11.4. which is free from infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24).](1)(5) or [II.2.11.4. which is seasonally free from infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24): either [II.2.11.4.1. for at least 60 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.](1)(6) or [II.2.11.4.1. for at least 28 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union and the animals have been subjected to a serological test in accordance with Article 9(b) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, with negative results, carried out on samples collected at least 28 days following the date of entry of the animal into the seasonally free zone.](1)(6) or [II.2.11.4.1. for at least 14 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union and have been subjected to a PCR test, with negative results, carried out on samples collected at least 14 days following the date of entry of the animal in the seasonally free zone.](1)(6) or [II.2.11.4. is not free from infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) and the animals have been vaccinated against all the serotypes (1 to 24) of bluetongue virus reported during the past 2 years in that zone and are still within the immunity period of time guaranteed in the specifications of the vaccine, and either [II.2.11.4.1. have been vaccinated more than 60 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.](1) or [II.2.11.4.1. have been vaccinated with an inactivated vaccine and were subjected to a PCR test, with negative results on samples collected at least 14 days after the onset of the immunity protection set in the specifications of the vaccine.](1) or [II.2.11.4. is not free from infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) and the animals have been subjected with positive results to a serological test able to detect specific antibodies against all serotypes (1 to 24) of bluetongue virus reported during the past 2 years in that zone, and either [II.2.11.4.1 the serological test has been carried out on samples collected at least 60 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.](1) or [II.2.11.4.1. the serological test has been carried out on samples collected at least 30 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union and the animals were subjected to a PCR test, with negative results, carried out on samples collected not earlier than 14 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.](1)</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania" Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022). Order Prot 5703 dates 08.11.2022 Serological monitoring for blue tongue and epizootic afta, according to Article 4, 124 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania". <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a> <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>We will not fulfill the requests with regulation 2021/404. The legislation of the Republic of Albania is to be brought closer to the legislation of the EU</p>
<p>either [II.2.11.5. is free from enzootic bovine leukosis.](1)(7) or [II.2.11.5. is not free from enzootic bovine leukosis and the disease has not been reported in the establishment of origin of the animals during at least the 24 months prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union, and [II.2.11.5.1. the animals of the consignment over 24 months: either [II.2.11.5.1.1. have been kept in isolation from the other bovine animals kept in the same establishment prior to</p>	<p>NA</p>	

<p>dispatch to the Union and during the period of isolation have been subjected to a laboratory examination for enzootic bovine leukosis using one of the diagnostic methods referred to in Article 9(b)(i) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, with negative results, carried out on samples taken on two occasions at an interval of at least 4 months.]](1)</p> <p>or [II.2.11.5.1.1. have been subjected to a laboratory examination for enzootic bovine leukosis using one of the diagnostic methods referred to in Article 9(b)(i) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, with negative results, carried out on a sample taken during the 30 day period prior to the date of their dispatch to the Union and all bovine animals over 24 months kept in the establishment of origin have been subjected to a laboratory examination for enzootic bovine leukosis with one of the diagnostic methods referred to in Article 9(b)(i) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, carried out, with negative results, on samples taken on two occasions at an interval of not less than 4 months during the 12 month period prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.]](1)</p> <p>[II.2.11.5.2. the animals of the consignment younger than 24 months of age were born to dams which have been subjected to a laboratory examination for enzootic bovine leukosis with one of the diagnostic methods referred to in Article 9(b)(i) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, with negative results, carried out on samples taken on two occasions at an interval of not less than 4 months during the 12 month period prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.]](1)</p>		
<p>II.2.12. come from an establishment:</p> <p>II.2.12.1. which is registered by and under the control of the competent authority of the third country or territory of origin and has a system in place to maintain for at least 3 years up-to-date records containing information regarding:</p> <p>(i) the species, categories, number and identification of animals on the establishment;</p> <p>(ii) movements of animals into and out of the establishment;</p> <p>(iii) mortality in the establishment.</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania" Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022).</p> <p>Law No. 9863, dated 28.01.2008 "On Food", article 19.Official gazette 17/2008, 31/2013, 95/2020, 29/2022. <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a></p>	
<p>II.2.12.2. which receives regular animal health visits from a veterinarian for the purpose of the detection of, and information on, signs indicative of the relevant listed diseases referred to in Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and emerging diseases, at a frequency that is proportional to the risk posed by the establishment.</p> <p>II.2.12.3. which was not subject to national restriction measures for animal health reasons, including the relevant listed diseases referred to in Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and emerging diseases, at the time of dispatch of the animals to the Union.</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania", article 17. Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022). <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a></p>	<p>We will not fulfill the requests with regulation 2021/404. The legislation of the Republic of Albania is to be brought closer to the legislation of the EU.</p>
<p>II.2.12.4. in and around which, in an area of 10 km radius, including where appropriate the territory of a neighbouring country, none of the following listed diseases has been reported for at least 30 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union: foot and mouth disease, infection with rinderpest virus, infection with Rift valley fever virus, infection with Mycoplasma mycoides subsp. Mycoides SC (Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia) and infection with lumpy skin disease virus.</p>	<p>NA</p>	
<p>either [II.2.12.5. in and around which, in an area with a 150 km radius, including where appropriate the territory of a neighbouring country, epizootic haemorrhagic disease has not been reported for at least 2 years before the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.](1)</p> <p>or [II.2.12.5. which is located in a zone seasonally free of epizootic haemorrhagic disease.](1)(8)</p>	<p>NA</p>	

**Bovine meat export readiness in Albania: production and sps compliance gaps against EU certification criteria**

<p>[II.2.12.6. free from infection with Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex (M. bovis, M. caprae and M. tuberculosis) as regards bovine animals.](1)(9)</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania."  Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022.  Order No. 306, dated 17.05.2023, for "The long-term approval of the control of tuberculosis in cattle", according to Article 16 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania".  <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a>  <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>We will not fulfill the requests with Regulation 2021/404. The legislation of the Republic of Albania is to be brought closer to the legislation of the EU.</p>
<p>[II.2.12.7. free from infection with Brucella abortus, B. melitensis, and B. suis as regards bovine animals.](1)(9)</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania."  Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022).  Order No.175 dated 28.03.2023 "For the approval of the Brucellosis program in cattle", according to Article 16 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania."  <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a>  <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>We will not fulfill the requests with Regulation 2021/404. The legislation of the Republic of Albania is to be brought closer to the legislation of the EU.</p>
<p>II.2.12.8. In which infection with the rabies virus has not been reported for at least 30 days prior to dispatch of the animals to the Union.</p>	<p>NA</p>	
<p>I.2.12.9. in which anthrax has not been reported for at least 15 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.</p>	<p>Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania."  Official gazette 143/2011, 14/2013, 71/2020, 11/2022).  Order 176 dated 28.03.2023 For the approval of the program of the foot-and-mouth disease, according to Article 16 of Law No. 10465. "For the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania".  <a href="https://qbz.gov.al/">https://qbz.gov.al/</a>  <a href="https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/">https://akvmb.gov.al/baza_ligjore/</a></p>	<p>We will not fulfill the requests with Regulation 2021/404. The legislation of the Republic of Albania is to be brought closer to the legislation of the EU.</p>
<p>Either [II.2.12.10. in which surra (Trypanosoma evansi) has not been reported for at least 2 years prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.](1) or [II.2.12.10. in which surra (Trypanosoma evansi) has not been reported for at least 30 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union and when the disease was reported in the establishment of origin during the 2 years prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union, the establishment remained under restriction until the infected animals were removed from the establishment and the remaining animals on the establishment were subjected with negative result to a test for surra (Trypanosoma evansi) as described in Article 9(b)(i) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 carried out on samples taken at least 6 months after the infected animals were removed from the establishment.](1)</p>	<p>NA</p>	
<p>II.2.11 AND II.2.12 MISSING</p>	<p>NA</p>	
<p>(1)(10)[II.2.13. The animals have not been vaccinated against infectious bovine rhinotracheitis/infectious pustular vulvovaginitis, and either [II.2.13.1. originate from a third country or territory or zone thereof free from Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis/infectious pustular vulvovaginitis.](1)(11) or [II.2.13.1. have been kept in quarantine for at least 30 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union and have undergone a serological test for the detection of antibodies against whole bovine herpes virus-1 (BoHV-1) with one of the diagnostic methods referred to in Article 9(b)(i) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, with negative results, on a sample taken within 15 days prior to the date of dispatch of the animals to the Union.](1) .</p>	<p>NA</p>	

	<p>(1)(10)[II.2.14. The animals have not been vaccinated against bovine viral diarrhoea, and: either [II.2.14.1. originate from a third country or territory or zone thereof free from bovine viral diarrhoea.]](1)(12) or [II.2.14.1] have been tested for bovine viral diarrhoea virus antigen or genome using one of the diagnostic methods provided for in Part 6 of Annex I to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/688 with negative results, and</p> <p>Either [II.2.14.1.1. have been kept in a quarantine establishment for a period of at least 21 days prior to their dispatch to the Union.]](1) or [II.2.14.1.1. The animals are pregnant dams and have been kept in quarantine establishment for a period of at least 21 days before their dispatch to the Union and have been subjected to a serological test for the detection of antibodies against bovine viral diarrhoea virus using one of the diagnostic methods provided for in Part 6 of Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/688 with negative results carried out on samples taken not less than 21 days after the commencement of the quarantine.]](1) or [II.2.14.1.1. have been subjected to a serological test for the detection of antibodies against bovine viral diarrhoea virus using one of the diagnostic methods provided for in Part 6 of Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/688, with positive results, carried out on samples taken before their dispatch to the Union.(1) or [II.2.14.1.1. The animals are pregnant dams that have been subjected to a serological test for the detection of antibodies against bovine viral diarrhoea virus using one of the diagnostic methods provided for in Part 6 of Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/688, with positive results, carried out on samples taken before insemination preceding the current gestation.(1)</p>	NA	
	<p>Notes:</p> <p>This certificate is intended for the entry of bovine animals that will be slaughtered in the Union.</p> <p>In accordance with the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 5(4) of the Protocol on Ireland / Northern Ireland in conjunction with Annex 2 to that Protocol, references to European Union in this certificate include the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland.</p> <p>This animal health/official certificate shall be completed according to the notes for the completion of certificates provided for in Chapter 4 of Annex I to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235.</p>	NA	
<b>Part I:</b>	<p>Part I:</p> <p>Box reference I.27: "Identification system and identification number": Specify the identification system (such as ear tag, tattoo, transponder, etc., from the list in Annex III to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035) and the individual identification codes of the animals in accordance with Article 21.1 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692</p>	NA	
<b>Part II:</b>		<b>Part II</b>	<b>Part II:</b>

Bovine meat export readiness in Albania: production and sps compliance gaps against EU certification criteria

<p>Part II:</p> <p>(1) Keep as appropriate.</p> <p>(2) Code of the zone as it appears in Column 2 of Part 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p> <p>(3) Date of loading: it cannot be a date before the date of authorisation of the zone for entry into the Union, or a date in a period when restriction measures have been adopted by the Union against entries of these animals from this zone.</p> <p>(4) Only for zones with an opening date in accordance with column 8 in part 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p> <p>(5) For zones with entry BTV in column 7 of Part 1 of Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p> <p>(6) For zones with entry SF-BTV in column 7 of Part 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p> <p>(7) For zones with entry EBL in column 7 of Part 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p> <p>(8) For zones with entry SF-EHD in column 7 of Part 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p> <p>(9) In accordance with Article 10 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692.</p> <p>(10) Only applicable when the Member State of destination or Switzerland, in accordance with the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products (OJ L 114, 30.4.2002), either have disease-free status or an approved eradication programme for the diseases mentioned in point II.2.12 and II.2.13 (infectious bovine rhinotracheitis/infectious pustular vulvovaginitis and bovine viral diarrhoea).</p> <p>(11) For zones with entry IBR in column 7 of Part 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p> <p>(12) For zones with entry BVD in column 7 of Part 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.</p>	<p align="center">NA</p>	<p>We will not fulfill the requests with Regulation 2021/404. The Republic of Albania has no establishments listed in the EU</p>
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