

**Question for written answer E-008312/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Aid for dairy farmers

In the past few weeks my region, Galicia, has been facing an unprecedented crisis of prices in the dairy sector, which has led to it having the lowest farm gate prices for milk in Spain

(33 cents compared to the Spanish average of 35 cents and the European average of 38).

What is making the situation worse is that, according to trade union sources, the Galician Government has refused up to 80 % of applications for dairy farm improvement programmes, even though it only has to provide 12.5 % of the aid, which is co-funded by the EU. This is particularly serious because the system of milk quotas is due to end next year.

1. Is the Commission aware of this price crisis and of the very high level of refusals of improvement programmes in Galicia?
2. Does it not consider that this level of refusals suggests that the criteria for allocating subsidies should be revised?
3. Does it not consider that situations like this demonstrate the risks of fomenting unfair competition within the EU by renationalising the CAP?