

**Question for written answer E-010652/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Dumping of imported rice

In Portugal, rice production covers an area of 30 000 hectares and involves some 2 000 farmers who produce a total of approximately 200 000 tonnes of paddy rice (of which 100 000 tonnes is 'Carolino' rice), generating sales of EUR 60 million.

It is public knowledge that the prices paid to rice producers have been falling since 2013, and they are now standing at EUR 25-28 cents per kg, which is much lower than production cost, which, in Portugal, is estimated at about EUR 40 cents per kg.

Portugal is a net importer of rice, and Europe is also one of the largest importers on the global market, which is recognised as being one of the markets in which there is greatest intervention. In fact, direct intervention by national governments, either in the form of purchases or the imposition of barriers on both imports and exports, is common news.

What is the Commission's assessment of this situation, in which it is clear that farmers are being paid prices that are well below their normal production costs? And is it considering intervening by condemning the dumping of imported rice?