

**Question for written answer E-011109/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: The crisis in the pork sector

The Catalan pork sector in particular and the European sector in general, were able to react to the Russian restrictions at the beginning of this year. Now, however, following the Russian embargo last August, they face the collapse of the international market, which has meant that the prices producers obtain for their products have now fallen below the costs of production.

In the light of the serious crisis that this sector is suffering, and bearing in mind the European Commission's own restrictions:

1. Does the Commission not believe that, to protect EU interests, it should implement export refund measures and assign public resources to campaigns to promote consumption?
2. How does the Commission view — and how could it implement — an initiative aimed at boosting Catalan and European sales on new markets and gauging the present and future impact of private storage measures and freezing of pork meat?