

**Question for written answer E-001925/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Policy to boost agricultural income

The income of French farmers is stagnating and in some sectors is falling. Many of these farmers are not making a profit and are selling at a loss. This is the case with a large number of livestock farmers who are selling their meat at a price that only just covers their costs - and this is happening throughout the agricultural industry. Beef sold at EUR 4 a kilo ends up on the shelves selling at between EUR 15 and 25 a kilo without the farmer seeing any of this profit, yet like all farmers he has the noble and vital role of feeding people. There are numerous cases of producers at the end of last year questioning the margins and the number of middlemen.

1. Could the Commission give an idea of the number of middlemen between the producer and the consumer in France and in the European Union?
2. What measures is it planning to enable French farmers to make a living from what they produce and have a decent income?