

**Question for written answer E-005593/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Production of first generation biofuels

Current legislation requires that Member States ensure that 10 % of energy consumption in the transport sector shall be obtained through renewable sources by 2020. This goal, considered by many as unrealistic, has led many Member States to strongly subsidise biofuels. This has led to the conversion of agricultural land away from the production of foodstuffs, and to deforestation, in significant parts of the country.

In the light of this phenomenon, which could strongly unbalance the agricultural sector and its respective market, and with no shortage of examples of this phenomenon worldwide, the possibility of reducing the production of first generation biofuels to below 10 % of renewable sources is now being discussed. This limit has fluctuated between 5 % and 6 %, according to the organisations and parties that have pronounced on this matter.

I would like to know the Commission's assessment of this phenomenon, in particular in relation to the impact of biofuel production on agricultural land use and what position it advocates in limiting this production.