Question for written answer E-012722/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

Subject: Agricultural subsidies for certain museums with a connection to agriculture

New EU rules have resulted in agricultural support subsidies being taken away from museums with a connection to agriculture. For example the Danish Farming Museum at Gammel Estrup is losing an annual subsidy of some DKK 230 000.

I realise that the legislation has its positive side – e.g. that subsidies for golf courses and airfields have been abolished – but at the same time I think there must be a misunderstanding when subsidies are also removed from museums which, among other things, impart information about and preserve old breeds of domestic animals, plant varieties and ways of nature management.

The relevant Danish ministry sees no way of amending the legislation and refers to the Commission.

Does the Commission agree that it is inappropriate for museums with a direct link to the agriculture industry to be put under the same heading as golf courses and airfields?

Will the Commission take the initiative to amend the legislation, so that agriculture museums, open air museums and similar institutions with a direct connection to agriculture can receive support again?

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