

**Question for written answer E-013631/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: The CAP and financial products

Agricultural activities are, by their very nature, especially vulnerable to various contingencies, including the weather, disease and even politics, as we have seen in the case of the Russian embargo. In these circumstances, there is a need, as there is for workers in all sectors, for the industry to be provided with instruments that provide a safety net and guarantee a replacement income in the event of incidents that put farms' financial balance at risk.

In the most recent reforms of the common agricultural policy, the guidelines gave preference to financial risk-management instruments, rather than public instruments, as the principal means of dealing with price instability.

It is a known fact that financial speculation on derivatives has been one of the causes of price instability. This seems to be one of the conclusions reached by the investigation unit of the Directorate-General for Internal Policies (Policy Department B).

What is the Commission's opinion of these guidelines, whereby the CAP is increasingly dependent on the use of financial instruments? Does it not think that we might be killing the patient with the cure?