

**Question for written answer E-001798/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (ENF)

Subject: Milk powder as an alternative to the sales crisis in dairy products

From time to time, milk powder is discussed as a possible way out of the problem of overproduction of dairy products. The Commission appears to share this view. However, this approach raises important concerns. The NGOs Brot für die Welt, Germanwatch and Misereor advise that this could cause considerable market disruption, to the detriment of regional producers, especially those in Africa. In line with Berit Thomsen of the ABL (Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft), we call for a restriction on the quantity of dairy production in the EU instead of the creation of artificial demand¹.

1. How does the Commission intend to balance the contradiction between the search for marketing opportunities for European dairy farmers and sustainable development aid?
2. In order for dairy producers in developing countries to return to securing their livelihood, would it be possible to return to the 'milk quota' system?

¹ http://www.epo.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=11979:landwirtschaft-steigende-milchexporte-fuehren-noch-tiefer-in-die-krise&catid=14&Itemid=88