

**Question for written answer E-005859/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță (S&D)

Subject: Malawi

A state of emergency has been declared in Malawi, where over half the population is in need of food aid, and there is urgent need for assistance from the international community to reform the country's agricultural sector. Malawi is considered the worst affected country in the southern African region, which is suffering drought blamed on an unusually strong El Niño weather phenomenon. The country's maize production has dropped by 12 %, leaving it short of the one million tons needed to feed the population. Over 6.5 million people are estimated to face food insecurity, a recent government assessment has predicted. A reported GBP 237m in aid is needed to support the affected population.

Is the European Union going to help ensure food security in Malawi and assist the vulnerable people there affected by drought?