

**Question for written answer E-006355/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Notis Marias (ECR)**

Subject: Compensation for Greek farmers for damage to their crops because of the drought caused by climate change

Farmers in Crete and other regions of Greece are facing problems caused by damage to their olive groves and vineyards because of the unusually high temperatures, the drought and the dry southerly winds prevailing since last spring.

More specifically, farmers in the prefecture of Lassithi are in despair at the incredible destruction of their crops: they estimate that, in the area of Ierapetra and Sitia, they have lost over 80% of their of income from olives and vines.

The problem of drought and water scarcity due to climate change affecting farmers is getting worse so that their very existence is at stake, since the Insurance Regulation of the Greek Agricultural Insurance Organisation makes no provision for compensation for farmers for drought, which it does not consider a possible cause of damage.

Given that, because of the extortionate policy imposed by the Troika, Greek farmers are unable to spend the money needed to grow crops, which is having an adverse effect on the production of agricultural products, will the Commission say:

What steps will it take to compensate Greek farmers for the damage to this year's crops caused by the drought due to climate change?