

**Question for written answer E-001117/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Michel Dantin (PPE)**

Subject: European Protein Plan

The European Union is structurally dependent on world markets for its supplies of vegetable protein. The international undertakings which the EU has given (Blair House agreements), agronomic conditions in Europe, the economic viability of protein crops in Europe, the lack of an ambitious research policy in this area and an unstable political framework mean that there are no easy answers to this problem.

Nevertheless, in recent decades the Union has used three main levers to support the objective of European protein independence, namely voluntary coupled aid for protein and oilseed crops, EU biofuel policy and the conditionality in respect of 30% of direct support introduced by the last reform of the common agricultural policy in relation to the implementation of greening measures, including the obligation to devote 5% of arable land to ecological focus areas (EFAs) and the decision to allow farmers to grow nitrogen-fixing crops and catch crops in those areas.

1. Has the Commission assessed the impact of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1155 and its own proposal to promote the use of energy from renewable sources (COM(2016)0767) on European protein independence?
2. Will these contradictory policy choices be analysed in the European Protein Plan?