

**Question for written answer E-005622/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Protection and promotion of common property

Portuguese 'baldios' are pieces of land held by a specific type of communal tenure. Common property of this kind is managed by democratically organised local communities. Common property areas held under a variety of tenure arrangements exist everywhere in Europe, Portugal, Spain, and France being notable examples. Collective rights and access to common land, and the modes of community organisation and management, all constitute an immensely valuable social and cultural heritage whose potential today is very largely untapped. In 2015 the FAO carried out a comprehensive review of communal forest tenure arrangements over the past 40 years and devised an assessment framework for revision of communal forest tenure around the world, the object being to help strengthen the systems in question.

Does the Commission have any assessment of common property agricultural and forestry areas in the EU? What forms of support are available for research, and to protect and promote those areas?