

**Question for written answer E-001479/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Theodoros Zagorakis (PPE)

Subject: Irrigation and the management of water resources in Greece

In Greece, on average 376 cubic metres of water are needed per stremma of irrigated land. The most water is consumed in the Southern Aegean and the least in Western Macedonia. These figures mean that Greece is one of the EU Member States with the highest rates of water consumption for irrigation purposes. The biggest problem in Greece is the increased need for water abstraction in areas experiencing a rise in demand due to the growth of residential housing, along with over-abstraction due to tourism and agricultural cultivation. The phenomenon of over-abstraction occurs in many parts of Greece which are facing water scarcity due to climate change, the increased cost of fertilisers and chemicals and water loss resulting from obsolete water supply networks.

It is worth noting that in many parts of the country - especially in olive growing areas - the cost of quality irrigation water is particularly high.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. What provisions does the new CAP make for sustainable irrigation projects and the rational management of water resources in the Member States?
2. What is the situation in Greece ?