

**Major interpellation for written answer with debate G-000007/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130b

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on behalf of the ALDE Group

Subject: Organic farming and geographical indications to strengthen the competitiveness of EU agriculture

Demand for high-quality and traditional products is growing, both in Europe and worldwide. Such products maintain the diversity of agricultural production within the Union, boost growth for small farmers and SMEs, and protect natural resources and the landscape.

Organic farming is now one of the most dynamic sectors of EU agriculture: it is worth around EUR 27 billion and has grown by 125% over the last decade. Meanwhile, EU geographical indication quality schemes (PDO, PGI and TSG) enable product names to be protected from misuse and raise the level of consumer trust.

Synergies between organic farming and geographical indications stimulate and boost the competitiveness of EU agriculture, while guaranteeing the highest quality of products and foodstuffs. These synergies can improve the protection of EU agricultural products at international level and within the framework of international agreements, while providing the answer to the deterioration in soil quality that is threatening the long-term stability of food provision.

1. With a view to CAP reform post-2020, what specific measures does the Commission envisage in order to provide greater support for the organic sector and EU geographical indication quality schemes?
2. What measures are being undertaken to preserve and enhance EU agricultural products within the framework of international trade agreements?