

**Question for oral answer O-000094/2018
to the Council**

Rule 128

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on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Subject: Common agricultural policy (CAP) financing

In view of the criticism, by a large majority of Member States, of the cuts to the CAP budget in the context of the Commission's multiannual financial framework (MFF) proposal, Parliament has stressed that agriculture and the economic sustainability of our farms are, and must continue to be, key priorities for the EU.

A dependable and safe domestic food supply is essential to the security of any geographical area, and the EU must maintain an adequately funded CAP to ensure food security in its territory and safeguard the viability of European farming, enabling it to meet the high expectations of agriculture, and increasing weather and phytosanitary threats, as well as volatility on world markets.

Farmers are already paying for the political consequences of the Russian embargo and of the trade conflict with the US; they should not be the ones to bear the costs of political choices such as Brexit, and new European priorities such as migration and security.

We would therefore ask the Council to increase the proposed CAP budget to bring it back to the current EU-27 level, and for it to be maintained in real terms over the duration of the next MFF period to ensure proper funding of the CAP objectives and avoid any possibility of re-nationalisation in the future.

Without adequate funding, how are we to ensure that the CAP can continue to provide stability for farmers and deliver food at reasonable prices for the benefit of all European citizens as required by our treaties?

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