

**Question for written answer P-006198/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Janusz Wojciechowski (ECR)

Subject: Reaction to Russia's unlawful embargo on importation of fruit and vegetables from Poland

On 1 July 2014, the Russian authorities responded to the political and economic sanctions imposed on Russia in connection with its aggression against Ukraine and the 17 July 2014 shooting down of the Malaysian airliner – which killed 294 people – by introducing an embargo on the importation of Polish fruit and vegetables.

This embargo has no factual justification and is nothing but an act of retaliation to EU sanctions. This act of retaliation is being felt particularly keenly by Polish farmers, especially fruit growers, whose main export market – worth some EUR 1 billion – was until recently Russia.

In this situation, Polish farmers expect other EU Member States to show solidarity.

Is the Commission taking any steps in this matter? I call in particular for resources to be mobilised from EU crisis mitigation funds in order to compensate Polish farmers, gardeners and fruit growers for their losses incurred as a result of Russia's politically-motivated embargo. This embargo – and I cannot stress this point enough – is the consequence of sanctions imposed by the EU on Russia. In view of the above, the EU should not leave Polish farmers to cope on their own with this serious EU-wide problem.