

**Question for written answer P-004437/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Norbert Erdős (PPE)

Subject: Risk management system for natural disasters affecting wine growers

Hungary's wine growers have suffered natural damage a number of times in recent years, most of which has an annual impact: fungal infections caused by drought or heavy rain have an impact only in the year in which they appear.

However, natural disasters in the form of hail and winter and spring frosts, which are becoming increasingly frequent and are more drastic than before as a result of climate change, are also harming wine growers. Spring frosts and hail have an effect not only in the year of their occurrence but can leave their mark over several years. Last year, for example, some growers in the Balaton region suffered such extensive damage that their vines were unable to develop fruit the following spring, as the fruit-bearing branches were damaged. This leads to a reduced yield not only in the year in question but also in the two following years.

The national risk-management measure under Regulation 1305/2013 EU allows for compensation to be paid for crop failure only for the year in question.

Does the Commission plan to introduce special rules as part of the risk management system to cover natural damage to perennial crops which has an impact over several years?