

**Question for written answer P-001782/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Franck Proust (PPE)**

Subject: Less-favoured agricultural areas

On 1 March France proposed redrawing the map of less-favoured agricultural areas. Some communes, which had been included in this map, no longer feature. The agricultural community is understandably worried by this development, conscious as it is of its need for EU support. The new map decided on by the French government would no longer include all the communes of the Camargue, since those of the Camargue gardoise would henceforth be excluded. Some communes of the Bas-Vivarais ardéchois and the Cévennes gardoises are also at risk. However, all these agricultural areas effectively contribute to biodiversity, the preservation of pasture-based animal husbandry, the fight against salinisation of land and livestock breeding.

Faced with this incomprehensible state of affairs and the arbitrary policy decisions made by the French government:

- 1) Can the Commission clarify its role in the process of examining the map of less-favoured agricultural areas forwarded by the French authorities?
- 2) What is the Commission's position regarding the exclusion of a number of communes from the above-mentioned areas?
- 3) Will the Commission exercise its right of scrutiny over the areas to be included in this new map?