

**Question for written answer E-002695/2014
to the Commission
Rule 117
Philippe de Villiers (EFD)**

Subject: Soil erosion

The fight against erosion is a major issue, affecting the preservation of natural environments, assets and people as well as the preservation of farming potential.

The European Commission regards soil erosion as the single greatest threat to farmland. The problem affects 26 million hectares, that is, 17% of the agricultural land in Europe.

The recent storms and natural disasters that have occurred in northern and western France illustrate the extent of the damage that soil erosion causes, in particular as a result of land consolidation.

Does the Commission have any figures that show the significance of land consolidation as a factor in soil erosion?