

**Question for written answer E-004378/2017  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Hannu Takkula (ALDE)**

Subject: Harmonisation of penalties relating to cross compliance in livestock farming

Cross compliance in livestock farming is an essential component of the Common Agricultural Policy. However, big disparities exist between Member States over the interpretation of cross compliance. The impact of penalties is typically great if forms of support have been applied strictly. If, on the other hand, forms of support have been applied more laxly, the penalties are lighter. In countries where support for livestock farming is linked to production, penalties may be substantial.

Simplifying agricultural policy is one of the Commission's priorities. When does the Commission intend to implement measures to moderate and harmonise penalties for forms of support in the livestock farming industry?