

**Question for written answer E-005635/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Stefano Maullu (PPE)**

Subject: Compensation for damage suffered by European rice producers

For years, certain southeast Asian states, such as Myanmar and Cambodia, have been exporting rice to the EU under the provisions of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).

This agreement does not provide for any introduction of levies, not even in the event of proven imbalances in free competition in the rice production market.

The Commission has recently stated that it may be possible to reintroduce levies on Myanmar, due to the country's infringement of human rights during the management of the Rohingya crisis.

The Rohingya crisis began back in 2015, but European imports of Burmese rice have grown exponentially, by 66% between September 2017 and July 2018 alone.

In the light of the above, can the Commission say:

- 1) If and how it intends to calculate the damage affecting European rice producers, caused by Burmese competitors who have benefited from preferential treatment under the EPA, even though the Burmese government has infringed human rights, at least since 2015?
- 2) If and how it intends to compensate European rice producers for the damage suffered due to the inadequate provisions of the APE?