

**Question for written answer E-003037/2019**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)**

**Subject:** The inadmissible legalisation of cannabis and CAP funding for cannabis cultivation

Since 2017, cannabis and cannabinoids have been on sale legally in several EU countries on the pretext that they have little or no psychoactive effects and are therefore not controlled substances as defined by drug laws. However, while delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) has a psychotropic effect, there has been an attempt to link cannabidiol (CBD) 'with health benefits', even though, according to a report by the EMCDDA, to date 'there is little scientific evidence of this in the majority of the diseases studied'. In countries where the sale, use and cultivation of cannabis has been legalised, the number of users has increased. For example, in the Netherlands, the number of users aged 15 to 34 rose by 1.8% in 2017 compared with 2016.

The use of cannabis is not, of course, 'harmless', as the total number of users principally dependent on cannabis and seeking treatment for the first time increased by 76% between 2006 and 2017 in 24 EU countries, while in Greece the figure was 36%.

In view of the above, where does the Commission stand on:

1. the legalisation of cannabis, which is being encouraged by Parliament in its inadmissible resolution of 13 February 2019 and which is being put into practice by Member States?
2. CAP funding for the cultivation of cannabis, which effectively amounts to the funding of a 'legal' drugs trade by European taxpayers?