

**Question for written answer E-004175/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Colombian palm oil

On 13 March 2019, the Commission adopted a Delegated Regulation implementing the Renewable Energy Directive which determines whether biodiesel from palm oil will cease to count as renewable due to the impact its production has on deforestation of ecosystems, especially in Indonesia and Malaysia. However, farmers in other regions produce palm oil with minimal environmental impact. This is the case in Colombia where palm oil is produced in areas that had already been developed for short cycle crops or pastures.

How does the Commission explain the fact that, although coming from environmentally friendly farms, Colombian palm oil will no longer count as renewable?

In addition, the EU created the European Trust Fund for Peace in Colombia with the aim of supporting the country with, among other things, integral rural development in areas affected by the armed conflict, including the substitution of illegal crops by other legal crops such as oil palm trees.

How does the Commission explain the fact that the EU is funding programmes that promote peacebuilding through the use of legal crops, while at the same time laying down regulations that exclude these crops as renewable energy sources?

Supporter ¹

¹ This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Javi López (S&D).