

**Question for written answer E-000883/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Laura Ferrara (NI)**

**Subject:** Crisis in the olive sector in Calabria

In Calabria, many olive producers have been complaining for some time about the serious difficulties they are facing.

In recent months, the steep fall in the farm-gate price for olive oil, which is now as low as EUR 3 per litre, has been fuelling disappointment and rage, since many of Calabria's 84 000 olive producers can no longer meet the cost of looking after their trees.

To make matters worse, warehouses are full.

According to the olive oil producers' association Frantoio Italia, on 31 January 2020 a total of 15 827 tonnes of unbottled extra virgin olive oil and 452 000 litres of oil in bottles, all locally produced, remained unsold.

Some industry associations <sup>1</sup> blame a range of factors for the crisis affecting the sector, from counterfeiting to zero-duty foreign oil and fake 'Made in Italy' products.

The result has been a 40% fall in olive oil prices and an 'historic' crisis in the industry.

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

what urgent measures will it take to support Calabrian olive oil producers, who are facing an unprecedented crisis?

whether it intends to protect the olive oil sector by pushing for more stringent checks to combat counterfeiting and sales of fake 'Made in Italy' products?

whether it intends to review the international agreements which penalise Italian oil by authorising zero-duty imports?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://lacnews24.it/economia-e-lavoro/coldiretti-dramma-olio-calabrese-politica-intervenga\\_110255/?fbclid=IwAR36jPj8zlic4Thv5o2OVQCQ0PleDlat2TCtq8tl0IUXsHTQ8id6SoLSFdckk](https://lacnews24.it/economia-e-lavoro/coldiretti-dramma-olio-calabrese-politica-intervenga_110255/?fbclid=IwAR36jPj8zlic4Thv5o2OVQCQ0PleDlat2TCtq8tl0IUXsHTQ8id6SoLSFdckk)