

Question for written answer E-002031/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Valter Flego (Renew)

Subject: Aid measures for farmers

The consequences of the COVID–19 situation are already visible in all sectors of the European economy, and are of particular concern to European farmers. Small and medium-sized farmers and family farms are suffering the most damage. At present, the most major problem is that family farms, small farms and agricultural businesses are not able to sell their products on the market. They also encounter problems in selling domestic food products to large retail chains and in the storage of products. The measures that producers seek from Member States are, first and foremost, aid payments, deferrals of taxes and contributions, the purchase of commodity reserves at market prices and the provision of special loans. However, these measures are not sufficient to overcome the crisis in which farmers now find themselves. Additional European measures are thus vital to saving the agricultural sector.

In this connection:

Is the Commission considering a European plan for the purchase of agricultural products and/or direct measures to assist Member States to do so?

What is the Commission doing about agricultural exporters and food drivers suffering heavy damage and losses due to traffic and export restrictions?