

**Question for written answer E-003134/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Ignazio Corrao (NI)**

**Subject:** Reviving the wine sector after the COVID-19 outbreak

The lockdown has crippled Italy's wine sector. The commercial standstill has wiped out most businesses' profits, putting their very existence in jeopardy.

The new harvest will bring difficulties with managing stocks. Moreover, many businesses will not be able to make the investments laid down in the CMO programme, such as the use of rights to plant new vineyards, meaning they could face heavy penalties for non-compliance with CMO commitments in the coming years.

Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/601 goes only some way towards responding to these difficulties. It is still necessary to postpone the deadline for planting and replanting authorisations for 2021/2022 and to suspend penalties for 3 years. We need to make it easier to deliver wine to private individuals abroad by setting up one-stop shops, thereby reducing fixed costs in the form of the taxes paid at each stage in the supply chain. And small producers, hit hard by being forced to close their cellars to visitors, need support.

The Commission has not budgeted any additional funds for the wine sector during this extraordinary crisis, but has simply pointed to what remains in the pot for the 2020 national support plan.

Can the Commission clarify its position on:

1. postponing deadlines and suspending penalties for longer;
2. facilitating deliveries abroad;
3. budgeting additional funds for the wine sector's post-COVID-19 recovery?