

**Question for written answer E-003948/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Spike in food prices

During the first six months of this year, food prices have risen massively. According to the National Statistics Institute,

potatoes and fresh fruit, as well as postal services, have been the most affected. Fresh fruit prices are leading the field, 24% up from the end of last year, while postal services are 12% more expensive. According to official statistics, food prices have risen by around 5% in the first five months of the year. One kilogramme of flour costs 5.7% more compared to the end of last year, while the price of bread and meat/meat products have risen by 3% and 3.5% respectively. By contrast, the COVID-19 crisis has pushed down air fares by 6% from last month.

Given the alarming impact of the COVID crisis in Europe, what instruments does the Commission have at its disposal to guarantee safe and ready access to food in the EU?