

**Question for written answer E-003994/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Sugar industry in crisis

The world's sugar industry experienced an unprecedented crisis in 2019. 2020 was to have been the year that the sugar sector started to recover, but the COVID-19 pandemic again threw the industry into imbalance worldwide. Since the onset of the health crisis, sugar has lost one third of its value on the global market.

The consequences of this are being felt most sharply by sugar beet farmers and sugar producers. European farmers and producers have been the worst affected. They had hoped that the market would recover following the sharp falls in prices and factory closures in 2019. The main trigger for the sugar crisis has been the collapse in oil prices.

What is the Commission's stance on the continuing crisis in the sugar industry, particularly within the EU, whose farmers and producers are feeling the impact of the crisis most strongly?

What tools could the Commission use to support the relaunch of the EU's sugar industry?