

**Question for written answer E-006329/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Derogation for unlicensed slaughter establishments

Unlicensed slaughter establishments are authorised to slaughter and cut meat for marketing purposes within a limited geographical radius, thus participating in the development of local food distribution networks beneficial to the local economy through a sustainable development approach. However, this derogation granted under Commission Regulation (EU) No 2017/185 will expire on 31 December 2020, putting the many thousands of establishments of this type in Member States in serious financial danger. It also undermines the multiple local food networks that are part of the development of sustainable and consumer-friendly agriculture throughout Europe. This goes against the future EU farm to fork strategy.

1. How does the Commission justify its decision not to renew this derogation?
2. What criteria would be needed to maintain this derogation?
3. Will the Commission envisage the permanent recognition of unlicensed slaughter establishments in the near future?