

**Question for written answer E-006940/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: România: 7 million hectares of degraded soil

Each year, an ever-increasing amount of farmland in Romania is becoming subject to degradation. The main reason for this is that nothing is being invested in preserving the soil or even crops, as is reflected in the poor quality and quantity of products. Soil degradation has arisen owing to poor soil management, the overuse of fertilisers and the lack of fertilisation using manure. If no action is taken this problem will become worse year on year.

Soil structure is very important, and soil must be granular rather than compact. Another factor affecting the soil is acidity, which can be measured in two ways: pH and hydrolytic acidity. The two should be assessed in combination as only then can acidity be managed and a neutral pH obtained. Where the soil is not in perfect condition, it can be treated in a number of ways and the problem remedied.

What strategy does the Commission propose to help repair soil structure and regenerate soils in the EU?