Question for written answer E-006943/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Increased food imports in Romania

A sharp fall in Romania's export figures (-13.3%) in the first four months of this year was accompanied by a smaller decrease in import figures (-7.7%), thereby further widening its trade deficit to EUR 6 089 billion euro, EUR 975 million up on the previous year over the same period.

Romania's principal trading partner is the European Union, which accounts for 71.9 % of its exports and 73 % of its imports, with non-EU27 trade, on the other hand, amounting to EUR 5 626.8 million in exports and EUR 7 045.6 million in imports.

Given the obvious benefits of purchasing locally-produced food in terms of product freshness and quality for consumers, on the one hand, and support for small farmers throughout the EU, on the other, what strategy is being adopted by the Commission to ensure a better market foothold for local producers everywhere in the Union?