Question for written answer E-006950/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Romanian honey price the lowest in Europe

Romania is in last place in Europe when it comes to the price of polyfloral honey sold to processors. According to an official document, in 2018 the average price offered by processors to beekeepers for polyfloral honey in Romania was the lowest in the EU at just EUR 1.82 per kg. In Bulgaria, the price was EUR 2.53 per kg, in Poland EUR 2.79 per kg and in Hungary EUR 1.97 per kg. The best price offered to beekeepers was recorded in the UK (EUR 10.04 per kg) and in Ireland (EUR 9.35 per kg).

Although Romania is in fourth place in Europe when it comes to honey production, with Romanian beekeepers well regarded for the quality of their honey, the price received is so low that the beekeepers' very survival in the market is under threat. Unfortunately, this year is not proving any better for Romanian beekeepers. Despite receiving *de minimis* aid of RON 25 per beehive, they can barely cover costs as a result of much-reduced production and the price for honey being well below expectations.

What measures will the Commission take to help Romanian beekeepers?