

**Question for written answer E-001715/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)**

**Subject:** Replacement of lost income for wine grape producers and support for small and cooperative wineries

Measures taken by the Greek Government to manage the pandemic led to a significant decrease in wine consumption, resulting in record stocks in 2020 and a steep drop in the price of wine grapes for producers, the majority of whom could not even cover their production costs. In some cases, these remain unpaid.

Hard-working, honest winegrowers have seen a sharp drop in their income, received no compensation and few have managed to qualify for the recoverable advance.

Efforts to clear stocks of Greek wine have been delayed and insufficient. This has proven to be particularly challenging for cooperatives and smaller wineries which, unlike large wineries, are unable to depress the prices they pay producers.

The Commission is opposed to the possibility of approving emergency funds to compensate winegrowers for lost income. Wine distillation and storage and green harvesting measures extended to 2021 continue to be financed by any remaining monies from national support programmes, which were almost exhausted in 2020.

In the light of the above:

What is the Commission's view of the need for an emergency allocation from the Community budget to finance the replacement of hard-working, honest wine grape producers' lost income, clear stocks and support small and cooperative wineries?