

**Question for written answer E-004976/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Salvatore De Meo (PPE), Lucia Vuolo (PPE), Andrea Caroppo (PPE)**

**Subject:** EU financing of in vitro meat production

The funding available under REACT-EU is intended to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic crisis and pave the way for a green, digital and resilient economic recovery. An amount of EUR 2 million (of which EUR 1 491 706 came from REACT-EU) has been granted through the ERDF to two Dutch companies (Nutreco and Mosa Meat) for research into reducing the cost of the in vitro production of meat in laboratories.

However, the sale of in vitro meat is still to be authorised at European level, while the livestock industry plays a key environmental, economic and social role, being a facet of European culture and tradition, and helps to prevent the depopulation of rural areas.

In view of this, can the Commission state:

1. How it can justify the multinational Nutreco being financed under the ERDF and being the object of REACT-EU funding;
2. On what scientific basis this production method has been deemed to contribute to the combating of climate change;
3. What impact producing meat in laboratories could have on the agri-food system as a whole, and on the livestock industry in particular?