

**Question for written answer E-005106/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Nikos Androulakis (S&D)**

Subject: Withdrawal of the 2020 raisin crop

Greek raisins are essentially an export product and the coronavirus pandemic has had a dramatic impact on raisin growers, with approximately half the 2020 production remaining unused. Despite the reduction in the size of 2021 crop due to adverse weather conditions, producers' prices at the beginning of the raisin harvest were 40% to 50% lower than the EUR 1.55-1.60/kg they were getting last year and they are continuing to drop. Moreover, due to the accumulation of large quantities from last year's production, agricultural cooperatives do not even have the capacity to store this year's crop, so the entire industry is on the verge of economic disaster. It is estimated that the withdrawal support scheme will cost about EUR 8 million and affect more than 15 000 families.

In light of this:

1. Can the Commission confirm if the Greek Government has submitted a request for the withdrawal of raisin stocks from last year's crop, as part of the emergency measures to deal with the pandemic, and, if so, when this request is likely to be examined?
2. Is it possible for the unused raisin stocks to be withdrawn via European or national funds and allocated to schools, refugee accommodation centres, hospitals, etc.?
3. Is it possible, under the common agricultural policy, to support raisin production through European or national funds?