

**Question for written answer E-000369/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Elena Lizzi (ID)

Subject: Rise in cost of raw materials and impact on the wine-growing sector

The dramatic increase in raw material costs is a matter of concern for a number of agricultural sectors and is having a particularly severe impact on the wine sector.

The increase in the costs of raw materials used throughout the value chain, such as wood, glass, metals, plastics and paper, is causing supply problems and economic instability, putting at risk a sector which is already severely affected by the ongoing situation caused by the pandemic.

In particular, the combination of the production slowdown due to the pandemic and the resurgence linked to reopenings has created an imbalance between supply and demand which is difficult to sustain, especially for small and medium-sized wine-growing enterprises, which are struggling to achieve economies of scale.

In addition, the increase in raw material costs is further undermining the already low margins of wineries, which have been forced to lower prices over the last two years to keep a small turn-over and reduce fixed costs from unsold stocks.

In light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What immediate measures does it intend to take to help the wine sector, given the rising inflation and the current global economic climate which is unfavourable to the European market?
2. Does it intend to develop a long-term strategy to facilitate the supply of raw materials in a structured manner?