## **Question for written answer E-000528/2022 to the Commission** Rule 138

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Subject: Thousands of Europeans denied access to safe food despite serious health

consequences

The cost of seasonal fruit and vegetables, which are an essential part of a healthy, balanced diet, has soared for consumers. While inflation has not affected the prices of everyday products, healthy foods have seen a price increase in excess of 9%.

It is important to remember that malnutrition is by far the leading cause of death in the world: every year, 11 million people die as a result of poor nutrition. Moreover, it is also the cause of one quarter of all cancer cases. Other worrying health issues that a poor diet can lead to include obesity, high blood pressure, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and depression.

One of the Commission's aims with the farm to fork strategy is to bring about a transition to a healthy and sustainable system that promotes organic farming. Admirable though that aim may be, it will come at a high financial cost.

In view of the above:

- 1. How will the Commission prevent future price hikes for European consumers?
- 2. How will the Commission deal with increases in the prices of raw materials for essential products such as pasta, flour and bread?