

**Question for written answer E-001668/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Atidzhe Alieva-Veli** (Renew)

**Subject:** Support for livestock farmers in making the investments needed to meet animal welfare requirements and take nature conservation measures

Agriculture, and livestock farming in particular, is a very important sector of the economy and has a major impact on rural development. Livestock farming accounts for a large proportion – nearly 40% – of the value of all EU agricultural production and provides incomes for a considerable number of families.

A number of measures have to be taken to improve animal welfare in the context of the Farm to Fork Strategy. The Commission is also expected to be bringing forward a proposal on phasing out the use of cages.

Animal welfare is extremely important for farmers. In order to meet the EU's high animal welfare standards, farmers have to make considerable investments. At the same time, they need to invest in more sustainable farming techniques. All this is at a time of food insecurity, high prices for energy, raw materials and consumables, and a lack of liquidity for major investments, given the current socio-economic environment.

1. Does the Commission not consider it necessary to help livestock farmers make the necessary investments to meet animal welfare requirements, given farmers' lack of liquidity due to high fuel and raw materials prices?
2. Would the Commission allow for the possibility of granting an exceptional temporary derogation from the requirements on ending the use of cages, given the serious difficulties currently faced by the sector?