

**Question for written answer E-001868/2022  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Mara Bizzotto** (ID)

**Subject:** Blockade of grain exports from Ukraine: Danger of global food crisis. Commission must act immediately.

David Beasley, Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP), a United Nations agency headquartered in Rome, has called for the ports of Odessa to be reopened to prevent a rampant global food crisis and ward off the threat of hunger that looms over 44 million people.

In 2022, Ukrainian wheat production could fall 35% with respect to 2021 and, if export routes are not restored, farmers in Ukraine will be obliged to bin their upcoming harvest as they cannot store it in warehouses.

Ukraine accounts for 10% and 15% of global trade in common wheat and corn, respectively, and India has also banned wheat exports with immediate effect.

Meanwhile, a food crisis in Africa could cause unrest.

On a recent visit to the United States, Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi called for credible talks to release the wheat held up in Ukrainian ports.

In the light of the above, what steps does the Commission intend to take to secure the export of wheat from the port of Odessa to Europe and developing countries that rely heavily on Ukraine's agricultural market?