

**Question for written answer E-002415/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Viktor Uspaskich (NI)

Subject: Reducing VAT on food products

According to Eurostat, annual food price inflation in part of the EU exceeded 20% in May. In some parts of the EU, the inflation of bread and cereal prices exceeded 30%. The price of grains and grits is likely to continue to rise as they remain in short supply in world markets. This will have a negative impact on households, especially those who are most socially vulnerable, such as people raising young children, people of retirement age, people with disabilities, etc. As a result, some of them may face food poverty.

In many EU countries, VAT on food products is as much as 21%, so the final cost increases significantly when there is an increase in the price of raw materials. A reduction in VAT on food products would help to mitigate the impact of the rise in food prices and protect the most socially vulnerable members of society.

Does the Commission agree that a reduction in VAT on food products would help to mitigate the impact of the price rise? What measures does the Commission intend to take to solve the unprecedented problem of the rise in food prices in the EU?