

**Question for written answer E-004038/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: No to synthetic food: call on the Commission to stop funding for artificial food and to protect agriculture, livestock farming and traditional sectors

On 17 November 2022, the US Food and Drug Administration authorised for the first time the consumption of synthetic meat produced in a laboratory from live animal cells.

In order to combat the spread of synthetic food, signatures are now being collected in Italy for a petition to ban its production, use and marketing.

Although it is advertised as being healthier and more sustainable, laboratory 'meat' requires more water and energy than do traditional farms.

In Denmark, the company Remilk is investing in the production of synthetic milk, manufactured without cows, while in Germany the Bluu Seafood firm is focusing its activities on 'fish' sticks grown in vitro.

Artificial food severs the age-old relationship between food and nature. Test-tube food will jeopardise the jobs of millions of farmers, stockbreeders and supply chain operators, as well as the socio-economic cohesion of farming areas.

In view of the need to safeguard the role of farmers and stockbreeders who, through their work, protect the environment and animal welfare, and taking into account the answer to the question E-003165/2022, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does it plan to thoroughly investigate the cumulative environmental impact and the actual contribution to healthiness of food engineering products? How?
2. What, and how much, EU funding is going to support, or has in the past supported, research into the development of synthetic food?

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