Question for written answer E-000885/2023 to the Commission Rule 138 Clara Aguilera (S&D)

Subject: Trade dumping of Egyptian citrus fruit in the EU

Between January and September 2022, Egypt exported 238 000 tonnes of oranges to the European Union. These massive shipments flooded the aisles of European supermarkets and put the EU's produce at an obvious disadvantage. The figures for 2023 suggest an increase in imports of Egyptian

citrus fruit.

Egyptian citrus fruit is cheaper: oranges arrive at European ports priced at EUR 0.55/kilo, which is lower than European production costs. These prices are made possible, in part, by much lower salaries in Egypt than in Europe (EUR 168.80/month). Egypt also does not follow ILO conventions, and its environmental and plant health rules are much less strict than in Europe. This situation could be tantamount to trade dumping, on the basis of Regulation (EU) 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Union.

1. Has the Commission assessed the impact of increased citrus fruit imports from Egypt on European production?

2. Does the Commission believe that trade dumping could be occurring in our internal citrus fruit market?

Submitted: 15.3.2023