

**Question for written answer E-000924/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Idoia Villanueva Ruiz (The Left)

Subject: Protection of the Valencian citrus sector against commercial dumping by non-EU countries

The Valencian farmers' association Unió Llauradora and other organisations have warned of the increase in the volume of Egyptian oranges on the Spanish and European citrus markets. They are cheaper than those produced in Spain, due to low labour costs and the less strict environmental and plant protection standards on the Egyptian market. As a result, these products represent unfair competition for citrus fruit from the Autonomous Community of Valencia, and the result of this is commercial and social dumping that benefits Egypt's products and harms those from Valencia.

Bearing in mind that Regulation (EU) 2016/1036 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 aims to protect European Union products against the impact of dumping by non-EU countries, I would like to ask the following questions:

1. How will the Commission protect the production of Valencian oranges and the single market from unfair competition from third countries?
2. How does the Commission intend to ensure that citrus products from non-EU countries meet the same environmental, labour and plant health standards as those produced in the EU?

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