

**Question for written answer E-001453/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU support for food aid

On 28 October 2022, the Commission adopted the new European food aid support programme (Soutien européen à l'aide alimentaire, SEAA) of the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+). The successor to the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD), the SEAA is clearly not up to the task of addressing food poverty, as many organisations have pointed out.

While its budget is slightly bigger than that of the FEAD in France over a shorter period of time (EUR 647 million for 2022-2027 compared to EUR 587 million for 2014-2020), according to food banks the number of people relying on food aid tripled over 10 years, rising from 820 000 in 2011 to 2.4 million in 2022. Moreover, food inflation following Russia's war in Ukraine is making the situation even more difficult for people who need this type of support: six out of ten of them now visit food banks twice a week.

A number of organisations are also warning that is impossible to distribute essential items such as sugar, flour and oil.

Given the current crisis, does the Commission intend to increase the SEAA budget?

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