

**Question for written answer E-002184/2023**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Clara Aguilera (S&D)**

**Subject:** Need for a safeguard mechanism for EU rice in the new generalised system of preferences

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in rice exports to the EU from countries participating in the generalised system of preferences (GSP), especially those with Everything But Arms (EBA) status. This is cheap rice with much lower sustainability standards than EU rice. As a result, some transactions between rice millers and producers in a number of EU countries have been blocked, and prices have fallen as a result.

As part of the trilogue negotiations to renew the GSP, the European Parliament has been pushing for an automatic safeguard mechanism for rice to provide certainty for the EU's rice sector. However, no agreement has been reached and the European Commission is working on a specific proposal for the continuation of the system.

In light of the above:

Does the Commission intend to include in the GSP renewal an efficient and clear safeguard mechanism for EU rice?

Submitted: 11.7.2023