

**Question for written answer E-002963/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Privatisation of irrigation water

Greece's New Democracy (ND) government has made it a priority to fulfil yet another requirement in order to secure funds from the EU recovery fund through contributory land reclamation works.

To this end, the land reclamation planning-survey-construction chain is being broken by moving the Directorate for Technical Works and Agricultural Infrastructure of the Directorate-General of Rural Development from the Ministry of Rural Development and Food to the Directorate-General for Infrastructure of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport.

Land reclamation works have already begun as part of the 'Ydor 2.0' programme and are being carried out through public-private partnerships. The works benefit construction groups as they have a project life of at least 20 years, guaranteeing profits either directly from farmers or indirectly from the working people through taxation and sky-rocketing production costs.

Meanwhile, legislative changes are in the pipeline for land reclamation organisations to be turned into public limited companies whose sole priority will be to make a profit, viewing struggling farmers as clients who will be paying through the nose for water.

In view of this:

What does the Commission have to say about the fact that the plan set in motion by the EU and the Greek government, supported by public-private partnerships and the recovery fund, is leading to further increases in the cost of agricultural production, lowering producers' income and making it impossible to produce affordable, quality food for the people?

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