

**Question for written answer E-002972/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Bronis Ropė (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Support for young farmers

Point 31.7 of the Implementing Rules for the 'Setting up of Young Farmers' intervention measure under Lithuania's Strategic Plan for Agriculture and Rural Development of Lithuania 2023-2027 states: 'where the applicant's agricultural holding does not include parcels which were on the agricultural holding of a close relative or related person during the two years preceding the application, 20 points shall be awarded. It shall be verified on the basis of the date of submission of the application that the parcels included in the applicant's holding have not been on the agricultural holding of a close relative (for natural persons) or a related person (for legal persons) in the two years preceding the date of submission of the application'¹.

I have been contacted by young farmers who have applied for this aid but have not received it because they do not have enough points. They ask how a young person can start farming if, after taking over part of the land from their parents, the farmer is penalised by not being granted aid points.

Could the Commission therefore say whether such a provision in the Rules is contrary to EU law, and whether it is in accordance with the provisions of the regulations?

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¹ (<https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/40972ad0d2ac11ed9978886e85107ab2>)