

**Question for written answer E-003086/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Isabella Adinolfi (PPE)

Subject: Protecting EU farmers and citizens in a poultry market distorted by imports

Italian and European farmers are in a critical situation, with the EU poultry sector reeling because meat and eggs are being imported en masse from third countries like Ukraine whose animal welfare and food safety standards pale in comparison to the EU's.

EU poultry farmers are in dire straits because, owing to their strict adherence to EU animal safety and welfare regulations, they incur significantly higher productions costs than their third-country counterparts, whose goods are consequently much cheaper.

Given the importance of protecting one of the EU's most important economic sectors, could the Commission answer the following:

1. What will it do to protect EU poultry farmers from these unfair competitive practices, and how can we ensure that third-country imports do not compromise animal welfare standards in the EU market?
2. Does the Commission not believe that, for consumers to make informed decisions, it is necessary to institute a new, clearer and more informative labelling system which, in addition to the country of origin, also includes information on animal welfare standards?
3. How does the Commission intend to counterbalance this market trend with a view to protecting EU poultry farmers while guaranteeing food safety, sustainable practices and standards that respect animal welfare?

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