

**Question for written answer E-003172/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Benoît Lutgen (PPE)

Subject: The impact of a vegetarian diet

There is increasing pressure for consumers to adopt a vegetarian diet.

This is illustrated by agriculture's classification in the Industrial Emissions Directive, as well as by the desire to make life extremely difficult for family livestock farms. This is also evidenced by the support of large groups (Danone, Nestlé) for the Nature Restoration Regulation. Such groups have announced in their stock exchange communications that they wish to reduce meat consumption in favour of products deemed more profitable, such as grains and vegetables.

Can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. How has the consumption of meat, vegetables and meat substitutes evolved over the last decade?
2. Has a shift in consumption patterns towards more plant-based products or meat substitutes been studied in terms of its impact on land distribution and use, in particular the disappearance of grasslands, which are well-known carbon sinks?
3. Has the environmental impact of replacing meat with substitutes been studied?

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