

**Question for written answer E-003250/2023  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)**

Subject: The ever-increasing price of olive oil

In the 2022-2023 crop year Greece produced 340 000 tonnes of olive oil. Olive oil production is expected to drop in the EU's other olive oil producing countries, especially in Spain where again last year production fell significantly.

This gave big processing, trade and export businesses the pretext to massively raise prices. The dominance of monopolies and the competition over the profits guaranteed by EU regulations have sent production costs through the roof, with expensive fuel and price increases in electricity, agricultural supplies and pesticides.

In view of this:

1. How does the Commission respond to the call for guaranteed prices for agricultural products so that hard-working farmers (a) do not fall prey to traders and manufacturers who set prices using the 'market' as a pretext and (b) can earn a living wage, and so that product prices are affordable for consumers?
2. How does it respond to the calls for lower production costs with a cap on electricity prices, tax-free fuel, affordable agricultural resources, supplies and machinery guaranteed by the State, VAT exemption for basic consumer goods, measures to protect production from natural disasters and diseases?
3. What does it have to say about the fact that the only thing the EU Single Market and the CAP guarantee is profits for business groups, which, together the State, fleece hard-working farmers as well as consumers who are faced with exorbitant prices?

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