

**Question for written answer E-000104/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Milk prices on the rise worldwide

Milk prices have recently risen significantly throughout the world. One of the main drivers of this price increase is the growing demand for Chinese dairy products when these are in short supply and local production is in decline. As a result, milk prices have continued to increase worldwide since September, following quite substantial decreases in May.

For a third time running, prices of dairy products at the New Zealand Global Dairy Trade (GDT) auction have risen steeply. Recent data from the 3 October auction show that the price index for dairy products marketed rose by 4.4% over mid-September.

The price of skimmed milk powder has jumped up, and now stands at over EUR 2 400 per tonne.

At the same time, the price of butter has increased by 1.3% to EUR 4 591/tonne, while that of cheddar decreased by 4.8 %.

In view of the increase in prices of milk and dairy products and the factors behind this increase, what tools can the European Commission use to protect European consumers against these price rises?

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