

**Question for written answer E-000491/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Bronis Ropė (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Infringements committed by Lithuania in the preparation of its CAP Strategic Plan

In Lithuania, the National Audit Office has issued its findings on the work of the Ministry of Agriculture. According to the National Audit Office, 'the agricultural sector should be more actively involved as social partners in the work of working groups set up to address policy-making issues. [...] The Ministry does not have criteria regarding when and which social partners should be involved in working groups. 49% of the associations surveyed consider that the process of coordinating legislation with the social partners does not take place, and 46% of the respondents indicated that the process is flawed. This means that the social partners are not able to participate sufficiently in the legislative process or to make proposals at all stages of the legislative process'¹.

Based on these findings, the Ministry of Agriculture has infringed Article 106(3) of Regulation 2021/2115 in the preparation of the Lithuanian Strategic Plan: '3. Each Member State shall organise a partnership with the competent regional and local authorities. The partnership shall include at least the following partners: [...] (b) economic and social partners, including representatives of the agricultural sector; [...] Member States shall effectively involve those partners in the preparation of the CAP Strategic Plans and shall consult with relevant stakeholders, including as regards the minimum standards referred to in Article 13, where appropriate'.

Could the Commission please answer the following questions:

1. Is the Commission aware of these findings?
2. Will the Commission require Lithuania to seek input from all farmers' organisations on the CAP Strategic Plan, prepare amendments to it and submit it to the Commission for coordination?

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¹ <https://www.valstybeskontrole.lt/LT/Post/17731/valstybes-kontrole-zemes-ukio-ministerijai-pateike-rekomendacijas-del-veiklos-tobulinimo?fbclid=IwAR2f2G5Y9sG2SpkCgcCliUTwCHA8iyJ8xoU-i0HfvN5BBV7MmHemBTDXpdI>.