Question for written answer E-000492/2024 to the Commission Rule 138 Bronis Ropė (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Transit of grain from Russia through the EU

It is becoming increasingly clear that large quantities of Russian grain are entering the EU through both Latvia and Lithuania. It is likely that some of this grain has been seized from Ukrainian territory occupied by Russia. Therefore, if we do not bring this transit of grain through the EU under control, it will bolster Russia's economy and its war against Ukraine. The quality of this grain is not being checked, and its possible mixing with Lithuanian grain – known for its high quality – will damage the reputation of Lithuanian grain producers.

In addition, the aforementioned entry of Russian grain onto the market has likely caused a significant drop in Lithuanian grain prices, while grain elevators are still full. At the end of 2023, the price of triticale was about 46%, rye about 37% and wheat about 33% lower than in 2022. In other words, grain prices in Lithuania have fallen by a third.

In this context, is the Commission aware of this problem and, if so, what measures does it intend to take in order to address these problems, to restore balance on grain markets and to stop supporting the Russian economy?

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