

**Question for written answer E-000667/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Reform of the Directive on unfair trading practices in the agricultural and food supply chain

Article 3(1) of the proposed late payments regulation (LPR)¹ establishes that 'the payment period shall not exceed 30 calendar days' and that this payment period will also apply to 'the supply of non-perishable agricultural and food products on a regular and non-regular basis'.

The proposed LPR is still at the Parliamentary stage of the ordinary legislative procedure and there has already been considerable criticism of this necessary provision, since in effect it reforms the Directive on unfair trading practices in business-to-business relationships in the agricultural and food supply chain (UTP Directive)².

Article 3(1) of the UTP Directive sets a payment period of 30 days for perishable food products and 60 days for non-perishable food products. The proposed LPR therefore effectively amends the directive to offer more protection to farmers.

1. In order to achieve EU-wide normative consistency on this matter, does the Commission intend to propose a reform of the UTP Directive to align it to the future late payments regulation?
2. Does the Commission intend to turn the UTP Directive into a regulation?

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¹ COM(2023)0533.

² Directive (EU) 2019/633 of 17 April 2019 on unfair trading practices in business-to-business relationships in the agricultural and food supply chain, OJ L 111, 25.4.2019, p. 59.