

**Question for written answer E-001000/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Unprecedented influx of Russian durum wheat into the Italian market

Since the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine, the EU has adopted 13 sanction packages, imposing restrictive measures on an estimated total of EUR 91.2 billion worth of goods previously imported from Russia.

However, some goods still manage to enter our internal market, either by circumventing the sanctions or because these goods are not on the list of banned products.

Among these is Russian durum wheat, which is still entering the EU market, especially through Italy. According to some figures, since 2023, the import of Russian durum wheat in Italy has skyrocketed, rising by 1 164 % in comparison with the previous year¹, making Russia the largest supplier of durum wheat to Italy².

The gargantuan influx of Russian durum wheat, which is imported at very low prices, has a distortive impact on the Italian market, forcing Italian producers to reduce the sale price of their products to remain competitive.

1. Is the Commission aware of these astonishing figures?
2. Against this backdrop, what actions is the Commission planning to take to reverse this trend?
3. Will the Commission propose to the Council to add Russian durum wheat to the list of banned products?

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¹ https://www.borsaitaliana.it/borsa/notizie/radiocor/economy/dettaglio/italy-durum-wheat-imports-from-russia-surge-1164-in-2023-nRC_21022024_1117_254101267.html?lang=en#:~:text=Imports%20from%20Turkey%20up%20798,now%20underway%20on%20the%20agrifood.

² https://www.corriere.it/economia/consumi/24_febbraio_20/grano-la-misteriosa-invasione-di-quello-russo-in-italia-in-un-anno-import-decuplicato-94c84b91-de3e-4d55-acf0-ba2598122x1k.shtml.