

ORAL QUESTION WITH DEBATE O-0069/07

pursuant to Rule 108 of the Rules of Procedure

by Sergio Berlato, Janusz Wojciechowski, Gintaras Didžiokas and Liam Aylward, on behalf of the UEN Group  
to the Commission

Subject: Significant increases in food prices and consumer protection

Recently in the European Union significant increases have been observed in the price of basic foodstuffs, especially in the new Member States.

For example, in Poland in the last two years the price of bread has increased by 15 %, the price of apples by 83 % and that of potatoes by 33%, while the price of milk has almost doubled.

In Italy, Ireland and Lithuania the price of cereals, milk and fruit and vegetables has almost doubled.

At the same time, EU policy is to restrict agricultural production. This policy seems to run ever more contrary to consumers' needs.

Does the European Commission intend to review its administrative policy of limiting agricultural production in the EU?

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Deadline for reply: 25.10.2007