

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0528/08
by Petya Stavreva (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: The critical situation of Bulgarian milk producers

Over recent months, Bulgarian milk producers have been faced with an extremely difficult situation. High animal feed prices, low purchase prices for milk and the shortage of resources for feeding animals during the winter months, as well as the absence of a targeted state policy in the stock breeding sector will possibly result in the slaughter of animals and the bankruptcy of a large number of Bulgarian stock breeders.

The second year of our membership of the European Union is about to prove fatal for a substantial number of milk producers. This critical situation will lead to a long-term reduction of production, will make Bulgarian farmers unable to compete and will have a disastrous impact on the way resources from the European funds are used.

In view of the difficult situation Bulgarian milk producers find themselves in, what are the possibilities of their receiving additional national or European funding during the first years of the Bulgarian membership of the European Union?