

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3641/09  
by Esther Herranz García (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: The pig sector

In the last few months the pig sector has been through a critical period as a result of the fall in consumption and high production costs. The arbitrary decision taken recently by Russia to close its borders to exports from some EU Member States including Spain in response to the outbreak of swine flu is worsening this situation. The European Commission has repeatedly refused to subsidise exports despite continual demands from the European sector, which unlike other farming and livestock sectors does not benefit from any direct financial aid.

Does the Commission believe that given the closure of Russia's borders and taking into account the devaluation of currency in other non-Community countries which receive European imports, it is time to yield to the petitions made by farmers and several European governments?