

**Question for written answer P-003721/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Valentinas Mazuronis (EFDD)**

Subject: Situation in the milk sector

Decreasing global milk prices, abolition of the EU milk quotas and the low direct payments of the European Union to farmers could cause a crisis in the milk sector not only in Lithuania, but also other countries.

Lithuania's small farmers are paid EUR 0.11 per 1 kg of milk, while in Europe the same figure is EUR 0.37. This is the smallest milk purchase price in the EU. The increase in production costs is more rapid than the rise in income, thus milk production is becoming an unattractive agricultural production sector.

What steps does the Commission intend to take to make the prices of milk purchase more stable and non-discriminatory throughout the EU and to guarantee fair competition among Member States?

What measures does the Commission intend to take to compensate the losses resulting from the Russian embargo to Lithuanian milk producers and to resolve the economic and social problems of milk producers?

Does the Commission intend to contribute to the promotion of cooperation among milk producers more actively, to consider granting an exemption to agriculture sectors and to not impose excise duties on diesel fuel, taking into account the critical situation of agriculture sectors?