

**Priority question for written answer P-002976/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Alexander Bernhuber (PPE)

Subject: Measures to stabilise the beef market necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic

The beef market is currently undergoing huge market distortions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission has taken steps to stabilise the market, yet beef farmers in the EU are still facing major challenges.

1. Why is Article 194 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 not being applied, even though several of the criteria listed in Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 are already being met, such as the negative impact on the volume of imports relative to production or consumption in the Community, or the undercutting of the price of a like product produced in the Community, and other criteria of the same Article, which are leading to a dramatic fall in sales?
2. Why are single cuts of meat such as 'Rostbraten' or 'Scherzel' not covered by protective private storage measures as set out in Delegated Regulation (EU)2016/1238, which makes provision only for carcasses, half carcasses and carcasses cut into quarters? Why is no account taken of cow meat and veal?
3. What further action will the Commission take to support the beef sector in the EU?