Priority question for written answer P-004930/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: REACT-EU funds granted (under the Next Generation EU instrument for the post-COVID recovery) to Nutreco and Mosa Meat to produce lab-grown meat from in vitro cell cultures

The EUR 2 million granted under the REACT-EU programme to Nutreco and Mosa Meat – two producers of cultured meat – has sparked concern among consumers, as well as farmers and breeders, who are already busy trying to become more sustainable and reduce their carbon footprint.

Given that sustainable traditional livestock rearing helps to protect an area’s biodiversity, landscape, traditions and culture, and that introducing ‘test tube meat’ onto the market would upset Europe’s agricultural model and not only jeopardise the security of quality food that can be traced back to a trusted origin, but also wipe out thousands of businesses and jobs:

1. Can the Commission name the impact studies and/or assessments which informed this funding decision?

2. What stance will it take on the production of cultured meat in the context of the 2021-2027 CAP and the New Green Deal, given that Parliament has never supported this industry and there is no mention of it in any legislative texts?

3. Does it consider the industry to be compatible with strategies aimed at protecting organic farming, quality products with origin labels, and the meat production chain – an area in which origin and traceability have been guaranteed for more than 20 years?