

**Priority question for written answer P-000705/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Regulation on plant protection products and food security in the context of Russian aggression in Ukraine

In its resolution of 20 October 2020 on the farm to fork strategy, Parliament recalled that impact assessments are an integral part of the EU rulemaking process and welcomed the Commission's announcement that it intends to perform detailed impact assessments, including public consultations, in line with the Better Regulation guidelines, thus conditioning support for initiatives implementing the strategy.

On 19 December 2022, the Council called on the Commission to submit a study complementing the impact assessment of the regulation on the sustainable use of plant protection products. Russia's aggression in Ukraine and its impact on the prices of energy, fuels, fertilisers and other agricultural inputs as well as on international food markets significantly increased food prices, reduced incomes for agricultural families and threatened food security, both in the EU and in countries dependent on European exports.

In support of the Council's proposal, we ask:

1. How does proceeding with the plant protection products regulation without a sufficient impact assessment as announced by the Commission fit in with the Better Regulation guidelines, and when will the Commission present a complementary impact assessment of the regulation?
2. Will that assessment include an assessment of the availability, costs and effectiveness of alternatives to banned plant protection products, and what action is the Commission taking to ensure the availability of such effective alternatives in the EU?
3. Do the international situation and the problems highlighted in the food production sector as a result of Russia's aggression not prompt the Commission to revise the objectives of the regulation and the farm to fork strategy?

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