

**Priority question for written answer P-001104/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Paolo De Castro (S&D)

Subject: Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development discussion on the Commission proposal for a regulation on the sustainable use of pesticides

During the discussion on the Commission proposal for a regulation on the sustainable use of pesticides¹ held at a meeting of Parliament's Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development on 22 March 2023, a representative of the Commission stated as follows: 'Scientists have concluded that our food production system in Europe is no longer sustainable, neither from an economical point of view, nor from a social point of view, nor from an environmental perspective.'

1. Does the Commission agree with this statement?
2. Can it explain what scientific data was referred to during the discussion?
3. These remarks contradicted a declaration by Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski², who welcomed the provisional political agreement on the new common agricultural policy (CAP) by stating that 'the new CAP combines higher environmental, climate and animal welfare ambitions with a fairer distribution of payments, especially to small and medium-sized family farms as well as young farmers.' Can the Commission clarify its position with regard to the adequacy of the CAP to achieve sustainable food systems?

Submitted: 31.3.2023

¹ Commission proposal of 22 June 2022 for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 (COM(2022)0305).

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_2711.