

**Priority question for written answer P-003415/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Ensuring stable income for farmers

It must be recognised that the resources of the reserve fund are never sufficient to compensate farmers for the excessively low income they receive for their produce, which does not exceed costs. According to statistics, the income of people engaged in agricultural activities is much lower than that of people working in other sectors – this shows that the European Union must find means of helping farmers, who are providing society with food, to live in dignity, in accordance with Article 39(b) TFEU: 'thus to ensure a fair standard of living for the agricultural community, in particular by increasing the individual earnings of persons engaged in agriculture'.

Could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does the Commission not agree that, in order to address the above problem, an EU-wide mechanism needs to be established which would ensure that, when agricultural produce is bought and sold, paying below cost for this produce is prohibited and that the cost price would include decent remuneration for people involved in agricultural activities and funds for investment in the economic viability and sustainability of the farm?
2. Is the Commission aware of the current national legislation in Spain which prohibits selling agricultural produce at less than cost price?

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