**Herbert Dorfmann,** *on behalf of the PPE Group***.** – Madam President, colleagues, it was the EPP Group that insisted last week on a key debate on agriculture. Our proposal was to stress the need to listen and to respect farmers in shaping EU policies. But, The Left group as well as the Renew Group could not accept the concept of listening and respect farmers.

As a result, the title of the key debate on agriculture as it now stands on the agenda, risks to change fundamentally the initial idea of the debate. Of course, our farmers play an important role in the green transition and the resilience of the sector, and there is hardly, I think, an economic sector like agriculture that adapted and modernised so dramatically and drastically over the past decade as in the context of the Green Deal and the current economic challenges.

However, let us not give the impression that the main role of our farmers would be to enable the green transition. We have had countless debates in this Chamber on the need to be ambitious in addressing climate change. By fully respecting the objectives of the EU Fit for 55 agenda, it must be clear that our farmers are crucial for our food security and for sustaining our rural areas.

The EPP Group therefore believes it’s high time to have a debate which expresses this respect to the role of farmers and the willingness to listen to them. So we want to achieve this objective together with farmers and not imposing on them our objectives.

Therefore, the PPE Group moves the request to change the title as follows ‘Listening to and respecting farmers as enablers of the green transition and a resilient agricultural sector’.