

**Question for written answer E-001943/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Martin Häusling (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Investment by pension funds leading to deforestation of rainforest for conversion to agricultural use, and human rights violations

EU pension funds are increasingly investing in agricultural production in regions of Brazil where biodiversity is high. The consequent development of industrial agriculture, in particular monocultures such as soya, often leads to the deforestation of large areas and to violations of the human rights of the local population.

1. In the light of the EU Directive on the Activities and Supervision of Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provision (IORP II Directive), is the Commission aware that in countries such as Brazil, international investment funds and pension funds are threatening the existence of rural communities, and does it agree that this needs to change fast?
2. What measures will the EU take to ensure that investment by pension funds in Brazil no longer results in the restriction of human rights and destruction of biodiversity?