Question for written answer E-002733/2023 to the Commission Rule 138

Anna Zalewska (ECR)

Subject: Help for Polish soft fruit producers

In view of the further difficult situation faced by Polish farmers as a result of the war in Ukraine, I call on the EU Trade Commissioner to take urgent action to restore order and balance to the EU market for soft fruits, in particular raspberries.

In this area of agricultural production, we are seeing a repeat of the situation that arose on the cereals market following the uncontrolled opening of the EU to Ukrainian cereals. The impact of the huge influx of goods into the countries bordering Ukraine has been particularly severe. An extreme situation has arisen in Poland, the EU's largest producer of raspberries.

The lower price of soft fruits from Ukraine is due, among other things, to the lower quality of the products resulting from the use of plant protection products banned in the EU.

I therefore call for the necessary measures to be taken to stabilise purchase prices for this fruit, in particular by suspending imports of frozen soft fruits, in particular raspberries – i.e. the finished product – from Ukraine.

- 1. Does the Commission intend to reintroduce import duties on raspberries and other soft fruits from Ukraine into EU Member States and ban their free import?
- 2. Is the aid granted to Ukraine subject to appropriate regulation and supervision in the agricultural sector, which is regulated within the EU?
- 3. What steps does the Commission intend to take to resolve the predicament of Polish soft fruit producers?

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