

**Question for written answer E-001310/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Budgetary impact of Ukraine's potential accession to the European Union

An article published on 6 August 2023 in the *Financial Times* states that Ukraine joining the EU would weigh extremely heavily on the EU's finances. Based on an internal Council note they were able to consult, the authors of the article explain that the two biggest areas of the EU budget are the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and cohesion (regional spending), which together account for some 62% of the EU's seven-year budget, or some 370 billion euros each¹.

They draw attention to the fact that Ukraine, whose farmland exceeds the size of Italy and where the agricultural sector employs 14% of the population, would become the biggest recipient of CAP funding.

The authors add that, according to another informal estimate, Ukraine's entry into the EU would make France a net payer into the CAP. Moreover, integrating this new Member State into the 2021-2027 cohesion budget would make it jump to the top of the list of recipients, dwarfing Poland's 77 billion euro allocation.

How does the Commission plan to overcome these potential obstacles?

Submitted: 25.4.2024

¹ <https://www.ft.com/content/744078f2-0895-44d9-96f9-701c13403df0#comments-anchor>.