

**Question for written answer E-003221/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Drought in Europe

In July 2025, 51.9 % of land in the EU was affected by severe drought, and this was especially the case in Eastern and Southern Europe. That figure is 21 % higher than the average for 2012-2024, and the highest since data was first collected, in 2012.

In 2024, 40 % of wheat, maize, rapeseed and sunflower crops in Romania were compromised by drought. 2024 was also Europe's hottest year ever.

In 2023, severe drought affected the south of Europe, resulting in major agricultural losses, especially in wine production. Italy registered a 17 % decrease. Besides this, the price of olive oil rose by 50 %.

Drought is a recurrent phenomenon, and Europe officially has a drought and wildfire season. It has become common practice to hold a debate in plenary each year on droughts, fires and water shortages.

1. The Commission is investing in crisis preparedness and disaster response, but what concrete measures have been taken in recent years to prevent and limit the impact of drought?
2. How can the Commission help to ensure that sufficient water is available for primary production and livestock farming and hence guarantee that farmers can continue farming?

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