

Question for written answer E-003260/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Scrapping of support for retired farmers under the future CAP

The proposal for the future CAP post-2027 was published on 17 July, when a deep-seated reform of this long-standing policy was unveiled, along with a 15 % budget cut that raised concerns over the future of agriculture.

Article 6 of the proposal, which relates to the new ‘sustainable basic income support’ or the so-called ‘area-based degressive income support’ imposes, in paragraph 6, an obligation on Member States to withdraw this direct payment, which is of fundamental importance for retired farmers in receipt of a pension. Over half of all EU farmers are aged over 55 and actively contribute to our food security. Moreover, since pensions vary enormously from one Member State to another, it is difficult to ascertain whether these are such as to ensure a decent living.

As no mention is made of this measure in any impact assessment accompanying the new proposals for the period 2028-2034, how will the Commission ensure that this provision:

1. does not exacerbate the inequalities under the CAP, leaving even more people vulnerable?
2. does not result in the abandonment of the land and of agricultural activities, and ultimately to food insecurity?
3. Would there be any supplementary income support schemes that retired farmers could access?

Submitted: 20.8.2025