

Question for written answer E-004783/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Egg shortage in France: is the EU endangering our food autonomy?

In France, egg shelves are partially or totally empty, when the country is the largest producer in the EU. Those in the trade are talking of stock outages of up to 13 %, a decline in self-sufficiency and greater recourse to imports, particularly from other Member States.

This situation is the result of a number of factors: increased consumption, bird flu epidemics, the switch to cage-free farming (additional costs), a collapse in profitability and the high margins of distributors unbalancing the market, along with the cumulation of EU and national standards and procedures, which brake investment. It raises question marks over the EU's ability to reconcile high standards with food security.

1. Has the Commission assessed the cumulative effects of its policies (animal welfare, environment and the farm-to-fork strategy) on egg production in the EU, in particular in France?
2. Within the framework of the common agricultural policy and the internal market, what initiatives (while respecting national competences) can be taken to facilitate investment and speed up authorisations without lowering standards?
3. How will it ensure that the phasing-out of cage farming does not lead to a lasting decline in European production and greater dependence on imports of eggs and egg products that do not meet the equivalent standards?

Supporter¹

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