

Question for written answer E-005013/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Diversification of protein sources

The European Union is highly dependent on imports of soya for the production of feed for the livestock sector. Currently, around 66 % of the EU's plant protein needs comes from imports. This strategic vulnerability is being amplified by geopolitical tensions, international trade constraints and recent events such as China's suspension of Brazilian soybean imports due to pesticide contamination, which may lead to increased volatility on the global markets. At the same time, the EU is seeking to reduce the climate footprint of the agri-food sector and support farmers in the transition to sustainable practices, while Europe's protein and oilseed crop potential remains underexploited.

Strengthening strategic autonomy in plant proteins is key to maintaining food security, farmers' competitiveness and the resilience of European supply chains.

What measures is the Commission proposing to significantly boost internal production of protein and oilseed crops – such as soya, peas, beans and chickpeas – with a view to reducing the EU's dependence on external imports and strengthening food security and the sustainability of Europe's agri-food sector?

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