

**Question for written answer E-002723/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: The income of small-scale olive growers/producers and monopoly profiteering at the expense of public consumption

Olive production in Greece, an occupation mainly held by small-scale farmers, is facing a number of risks. Producers are being ‘crushed’, on the one hand by the surge in production costs resulting from the imperialist war and, on the other, by the low prices set by bottling factories/manufacturers and large supply chains. Manufacturers are driving prices down, using global market conditions as a pretext.

Specifically, the recent ‘correction’ to the statistics reported by the Spanish Information and Control Agency (AICA), from 73 600 to 90 161 tonnes of olive oil sold, shows that numbers are being cooked to create a climate of uncertainty, which is used by monopolies to drive prices down. The practice of triangular imports (mainly through Portugal) acts as a backdoor for olive oil from non-EU countries, such as Tunisia. Olive oil is brought into the EU duty-free under the pretext that it is being imported for processing and then re-exported, but then ends up being labelled as European.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What view does it take of the fact that the EU’s institutional framework supports monopoly profiteering, with practices such as ‘triangular’ imports and the labelling of non-EU olive oil as European?
2. What view does it take of the fact that Special Report No 01/2026 of the European Court of Auditors itself states that the EU legal framework and traceability checks do not always make it possible to ascertain the origin of olive oil?
3. Where does it stand on the need for measures to be taken at ports and customs offices to register imports, and ensure traceability and reliable statistical data?

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