

**Question for written answer E-003222/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)**

Subject: Protection of the PGI ‘Kato Nevrokopi Potato’ from misleading practices in the market and strengthening traceability

Potato cultivation is a key pillar of the economy of the Kato Nevrokopi basin and the main source of income for hundreds of family farms in the border area.

The name ‘Kato Nevrokopi Potato’ is registered as a Protected Geographical Indication (PGI), recognising the special quality characteristics and the link of the product with its place of production. However, according to complaints from producers and cooperatives, the availability of imported potatoes or those originating from other regions with unclear or misleading indications of origin makes it difficult to distinguish the authentic product, squeezes producer prices and undermines the added value of the PGI.

Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 strengthens the protection of geographical indications by providing for official controls and obliging the competent authorities to prevent and stop illegal or misleading uses of protected names.

Accordingly:

1. Does the Commission intend, in cooperation with the Greek authorities, to strengthen official controls on the marketing of fresh potatoes in order more effectively to prevent any abusive or misleading use of the name ‘Kato Nevrokopi Potato’?
2. Is the Commission considering measures to further strengthen the traceability of fresh agricultural products, so that the country and region of production can be directly verified?
3. Can digital traceability and PGI promotional activity be financed through the CAP or other EU programmes for the benefit of local producers?

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