

**Question for written answer E-004071/2026  
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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**Subject:** Urgent measures to tackle high fuel prices in the agricultural sector and greater leeway in using European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) resources

The persistent rise in energy and fuel prices is driving up production costs for European agricultural businesses, with rural, outlying and disadvantaged areas hardest hit. This state of affairs is squeezing businesses' profit margins, and jeopardising their competitiveness and profitability, with knock-on effects for the socio-economic stability of rural areas and the Union's food security.

The CAP 2023–2027 has enshrined the EAFRD as one its main rural development instruments. Article 119 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 also governs amendments to the CAP strategic plans, including changes to the attendant financial plans.

Given the above and the unprecedented pressure on production costs, can the Commission say:

1. In accordance with Article 119 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 and the previous exceptional measures adopted to address the rise in input costs, does the Commission consider it possible to allow Member States (within the current regulatory framework) to reallocate unallocated EAFRD resources to temporary and targeted measures to help the farms most affected by energy price rises?
2. If not, what amendments to Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 are needed to provide such flexibility in the current (2023–2027) programming period?

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