

**Question for written answer E-004318/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Distortions of competition in agriculture

I am receiving an increasing number of reports from border regions between the EU and Switzerland, in particular Baden-Württemberg, of structural distortions of competition in the agricultural sector. Specifically, they concern the acquisition and leasing of agricultural land in Germany by agricultural holdings established in Switzerland. These holdings benefit from comparatively lower land prices and production costs, while at the same time producing for the high-priced Swiss market. In some cases, products are even marketed as Swiss, even though production takes place outside Switzerland.

At the same time, these holdings continue to be covered by Swiss national support and protection mechanisms, while agricultural holdings in Germany and the European Union face much more intense competition in the context of the internal market.

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the distortions of competition between EU and Swiss farms, in particular those resulting from the acquisition and leasing of land in Germany by Swiss farms, which benefit from lower costs but produce for the Swiss market?
2. What measures does the Commission plan to take to ensure a level playing field in border regions, improve transparency on origin labelling and marketing, and protect young farmers from structural disadvantages?
3. Does the Commission intend to address this issue in future negotiations or agreements with Switzerland?

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