

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000471/25
to the Commission
Georgios Aftias (PPE)
(3 February 2025)**

Subject: Support for viniculture in Greece

In recent years, due to the high cost of cultivation, many young people have been deterred from becoming producers in the viniculture sector. More specifically, decentralised areas of Greece that rely on wine production, such as Samos, face development problems due to the high cost of cultivation. According to the Unified Winemaking Agricultural Cooperative of Samos, the decline in viniculture and the abandonment of vineyards is a fact that has very serious economic and environmental impacts.

In light of the above,

1. With what plan does the Commission intend to strengthen viniculture?
2. Which European programmes can support the establishment of vineyards and for these vineyards to function as firebreaks?
3. Is the provision of professional incentives to attract new winegrowers being considered?

Submitted: 3.2.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(25 March 2025)**

Under the current Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) support through the CAP Strategic Plans is granted in response to needs identified for various sectors and areas including the wine sector.

Possible support schemes also include dedicated sectoral interventions for wine. In its Strategic Plan 2023-2027, Greece has chosen to implement five interventions: restructuring and reconversion of vineyards, investment, green harvesting, promotion carried out in third countries, and information actions. The total budget allocated is slightly over EUR 23 million per year.

In September 2024, a High-Level Group (HLG) on wine policy was established to explore possible solutions that could enhance the sector's long-term competitiveness and sustainability.

The HLG endorsed a set of recommendations addressing the production potential, increasing resilience to market and climate challenges, and adapting to new market opportunities.

The most urgent and sector-specific recommendations will be implemented swiftly through a specific legislative proposal ('wine package') that will be adopted in the coming weeks.

The CAP Strategic Plans also include support to help generational renewal, including in the wine sector. Additionally, young winemakers are strongly encouraged to form producer organisations allowing them to strengthen their position in the supply chain.

Although Greece has never planned 'firebreak vineyards' in the CAP Strategic Plan, it could by amending the plan, for example, under the sectoral intervention 'Investments'.
