

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000708/25
to the Commission
Nadine Morano (PPE)
(17 February 2025)**

Subject: Protein self-sufficiency

The European Union is becoming less and less self-sufficient when it comes to protein, especially in terms of meeting its needs for animal husbandry.

Less than 25% of oilseed cakes and less than 5% of soya cakes consumed in Europe are produced in Europe, making our producers dependent on third-country protein markets, in particular those in the Americas and Asia.

Yet being self-sufficient in protein is key to being self-sufficient in food, which must remain one of the EU's priority objectives.

In this context, what action will the Commission take to strengthen the EU's protein self-sufficiency?

Submitted: 17.2.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(2 April 2025)**

In the Commission's Vision for Agriculture and Food ⁽¹⁾, published on 19 February 2025, the Commission commits to develop a comprehensive plan to address the EU's heavy reliance on imported high-quality protein from a limited number of origins.

This initiative will be based on a holistic approach encompassing the agri-food system, considering both the way protein is produced and consumed.

Learning from on-the-ground efforts and research, it will present a way forward to ensure the long-term competitiveness, sustainability, profitability and attractiveness of the sector.

It will, in particular, focus on fostering domestic production to improve self-sufficiency to reduce the long-standing dependency on imported plant-based protein and on diversifying imports of plant-based protein to increase the EU's food security.

⁽¹⁾ https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/vision-agriculture-food_en#:~:text=Building%20on%20the%20report%20of%20the%20Strategic%20Dialogue,sustainability%20of%20the%20EU%E2%80%99s%20farming%20and%20food%20sector