

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001064/25
to the Commission
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)
(12 March 2025)**

Subject: Difficulties in implementing the law on livestock housing

Law 4056/2012 on licensing and operating livestock housing has proven to be unworkable and ineffective and is posing serious problems for Greek livestock farming. Despite occasional amendments to the law for specific categories, such as poultry and equine housing, farmers continue to face excessive demands that put a financial strain on them and create uncertainty about the viability of the sector.

The continued stringency of the legislation in contrast to the exceptions that have already been granted for other sectors, raises questions about the fair treatment of livestock farmers and about whether the applicable conditions really support growth in the agricultural sector or whether they actually make it easier for animal products to be imported from non-EU countries.

In view of the above:

1. How could the Commission assist so that the legislative requirements imposed on Greek farmers are realistic and practicable, bearing in mind the need for equal treatment in relation to other sectors not covered by Law 4056/2012?
2. What measures could the Commission put in place to ensure that all Greek livestock farmers have access to the necessary economic and technical support to adapt to the new requirements without taking a financial hit?

Submitted: 12.3.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(28 May 2025)**

The Commission may intervene in cases raising issues, where there is sufficient evidence of a general practice, of a problem of compliance of national legislation with EU law.

However, Law 4056/2012 concerns national administrative proceedings related to permits for the housing of farmed animals. Those administrative proceedings are not under the remit of EU law. Hence, this question is referring to national legislation that does not fall under the competence of the Union.

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Strategic Plan Regulation ⁽¹⁾ includes several interventions that may help farmers to adapt to the new requirements.

Under the CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 ⁽²⁾, in addition to direct payments, Greece envisages also support for farm modernisation investments, bio-security interventions and advisory services.

Where Union law imposes new requirements on farmers, support may be granted for investments to comply with those requirements for a maximum of 24 months from the date on which they become mandatory for the holding.

⁽¹⁾ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2115/oj>.

⁽²⁾ <https://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/category/sskap-2023-2027/sskap-egkrisi-tropopoliiseis/>.