

EN

E-002068/2025

Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.7.2025)

The Commission recognises the concerns raised about the agromafia and its impact on the agri-food sector. The Commission is already gathering relevant data through the work of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation and the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation in the context of serious and organised crime. In addition, the Commission can rely on the European Public Prosecutor's Office and the European Anti-Fraud Office, in cases of crimes affecting the EU's financial interests, including cases of food fraud involving serious health risks. Moreover, Italy's 2014–2020 European Regional Development Fund National Programme for Legality funds tools to detect and monitor criminal activity that blocks development, helping to identify crime areas in less developed regions.

The Commission recognises the need to strengthen cooperation among national authorities in the fight against organised crime, including the phenomenon of agromafia. In response, the ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy¹ places the fight against organised crime prominent in its approach. As part of this Strategy, the Commission will propose in 2026 new rules to reinforce the EU's capacity to combat organised crime, providing Member States with more effective tools to address all forms of serious and organised criminal activity, including agromafia.

The Commission also urges Member States to swiftly transpose the Directive on asset recovery and confiscation², adopted in May 2024. This Directive introduces more robust measures for the systematic detection, freezing, and confiscation of criminal assets, including in cases of unexplained wealth. It enhances Member States powers to disrupt criminal enterprises, including those linked to agromafia.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=COM%3A2025%3A0148%3AFIN>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1260/oj/eng>.