

(English version)

Question for written answer E-003240/25
to the Commission
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)
(14 August 2025)

Subject: Problems with the payments of subsidies for indigenous breeds

The delayed payment of approximately 1 120 Greek livestock farmers participating in the programme for the conservation of endangered indigenous breeds of farm animals (Intervention P3-70-1.5, CAP 2023-2027), who remain unpaid for the year 2024 despite the deadlines provided for in European regulation (30.11.2024 for advance payment and 30.06.2025 for repayment) and their appeal to the European Public Prosecutor's Office to investigate the fate of the funds, gives rise to a serious issue of management of European funds. These delays endanger the viability of livestock farms and the protection of biodiversity, while raising questions about the transparency of the management of aid.

In this context:

1. What specific measures does the Commission intend to put in place to ensure the immediate and timely payment of aid to Greek livestock farmers participating in the programme for the conservation of indigenous breeds, given the violations of the European payment regulation for 2024?
2. How will transparency in the management of funds be ensured and what steps will be taken to prevent similar delays in future, in order to protect producers from financial difficulties and support the sustainability of their farms?

Submitted: 14.8.2025

Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(14 October 2025)

The Commission would like to refer to the reply provided to Question E-001489/2025, on the same subject. In this context the Commission recalls that under shared management, it is Member States' responsibility to ensure that payments for the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) support are disbursed to the beneficiaries in full and within the payment deadlines as laid down by Union law ⁽¹⁾.

They must take the actions necessary to ensure the proper functioning of their management and control systems and the legality and regularity of expenditure declared to the Commission.

Member States must ensure that the area and animal-based payments under the integrated administration and control system (IACS) are made at the earliest on 1 December and at the latest on 30 June of the following calendar year.

Payments outside the deadlines lead to proportionate reductions of EU financing of up to 100%. Such reductions have a dissuasive effect concerning future delays.

In the context of the annual review meetings, the Commission and the Managing Authorities are closely reviewing the implementation of all measures and interventions of the Rural Development Programmes (RDP) and the CAP Strategic Plans (CSP) of Member States. Commission representatives participate in the Monitoring Committees of the RDPs and CSPs in an advisory role.

The services advise the national authorities on financial data, result indicators, as well as progress towards targets and milestones. In addition, a broad range of administrative capacity building activities, could be supported through the technical assistance aid available in the CSP, to ensure a smooth implementation of interventions and related payments.

⁽¹⁾ Article 38, Article 44 and Article 59 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2116 — <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2116/oj>.