EN
E-004483/2025
Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(13.1.2026)

The Commission has completed satisfactorily both the transposition check and conformity check for the unfair trading practices (UTP) Directive[1] in Austria. It has also published a report on the implementation of the UTP Directive in Member States[2]. Under the UTP Directive, the monitoring and enforcement of the rules are entrusted to national enforcement authorities. In Austria these are the 'Fairness-Büro' and the 'Bundeswettbewerbsbehörde'.

The Commission, together with Member States and their national competition authorities, pays close attention to behaviours risking impairing effective competition. EU competition rules, including their exceptions provided for by the Common Market Organisation (CMO) Regulation[3] for producer organisations, are enforced to maintain a level playing field, prevent abuses of dominance, and ensure that markets remain fair, dynamic and beneficial for consumers.

To strengthen the position of farmers, the Commission has proposed in a targeted amendment to the CMO Regulation[4], several measures, including mandatory written contracts and reinforced cooperation of farmers in producer organisations. To increase transparency concerning the transmission of remuneration for added value in the agri-food chain, the Commission has established an EU Agri-food chain observatory.

[1] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52024PC0576.
[2] Implementing the prohibition of unfair trading practices to strengthen the position of farmers and operators in the agricultural and food supply chain – State of play, COM(2024)176 final.
[3] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/1308/oj/eng.
[4] Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2021/2115 and (EU) 2021/2116 as regards the strengthening of the position of farmers in the food supply chain - COM(2024) 577 final.