

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001653/26
to the Commission
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)
(22 April 2026)**

Subject: Access to risk management tools for small and fragmented farms

On 25 March 2026, the Commission presented a study by the World Bank, which highlights that the EU needs a more coherent approach to agricultural risk management and that small farms face serious barriers to accessing tools due to high costs, limited options and complex procedures.

According to the Commission itself, Greece has around 600 000 farms with an average size of seven hectares, with more than 70% measuring in at less than five hectares, while more than 70% of agricultural land is located in areas with natural or particular constraints such as insularity, aridity and steep slopes.

Against this background, there is a serious risk that, in practice, it is mostly larger farms that are able to access the risk management tools set out in Article 76 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115.

Can the Commission answer the following:

1. How will it ensure effective access to risk management tools for small and fragmented farms?
2. Is it considering specific increased support for small contracts and cooperative structures?
3. Will it require earmarking for island, mountain and other areas with natural constraints?

Submitted: 22.4.2026

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(29 June 2026)**

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) has a robust framework allowing Member States and farmers to manage risks, including interventions stabilising income, incentivising risk transfer via, for instance, insurance companies, or providing crisis payments.

These interventions are accompanied by measures, such as preventive investments or environmental payments, to build longer-term resilience and to lower risks for farmers.

Member States are provided with flexibility to design measures tailored to their national and regional contexts, deciding on access to specific risk management tools or support levels, including for small farms or areas facing natural or other specific constraints.

The Commission intends to include risk management in the recommendations that it intends to issue to the Member States on the future CAP and the National and Regional Partnership Plans for the period 2028-2034.

To grant the necessary budget flexibility to Member States, the CAP rules do not provide for specific earmarking for island, mountain and other areas with natural constraints.
