

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003358/26
to the Commission
Sakis Arnaoutoglou (S&D)
(27 August 2026)**

Subject: IACS 2026 — Making the most of the possibility of earlier advance payments

Regulation (EU) 2026/1768, which came into force on 22 July 2026, gives Member States the option, specifically for claim year 2026, to pay direct payment advances of up to 75%, including before 16 October. The provision is aimed at giving a timely liquidity boost to farmers facing increased production costs.

However, in Greece, the submission process for the 2026 single aid application via the myAGRO app only started on 4 August. According to the Independent Authority for Public Revenues (AADE), for applications submitted by 15 September, advance payments may be made by 31 October, while for applications submitted between 16 September and 16 October, advance payments may be made by 30 November.

The late start and the limited time available to complete the necessary checks, raise questions about whether Greece is able to benefit from the advance payment option introduced by the EU.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Have the Greek authorities informed it about whether they intend to avail themselves of the possibility of paying advances of up to 75% before 16 October and what the timeframe for this will be?
2. Does it believe that the late start to the 2026 single aid application process could deprive Greek producers of the possibility of prompt payment?
3. How does it plan to help ensure that all necessary checks are completed in time and that this European opportunity is seized fully?

Submitted: 27.8.2026

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(13 October 2026)**

The Commission has not been so far notified by the Greek authorities about their intention of availing themselves of the advance payment option.

There is no legal obligation of Member States to notify the Commission about the use of the advance payments possibility. The legal change which enabled higher advances is well known to all Member States as part of the European Parliament and Council negotiations that led to the adoption of the Commission proposal.

Any late start of a payment application process could potentially affect the prompt payment of aid to the end beneficiaries. The Commission was in touch with the Greek authorities to proceed with the timely opening and closure of the application period.

The conduct of the necessary checks is a responsibility falling entirely under the remit of the Member State concerned under the shared management of the common agricultural policy.

The Commission cannot intervene in the implementation of checks; it has however underlined to the national authorities the necessity and importance of the timely and full completion of the relevant checks.
