

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-002877/25
to the Commission
Daniel Buda (PPE)
(15 July 2025)**

Subject: Common agricultural policy reform

The Commission proposed a reform of the common agricultural policy (CAP) and integration of the agricultural budget into flexible national plans, in order for funding to be rerouted to other priorities. The proposal was scrapped after opposition from farmers, agriculture ministers and the farming lobby. Although the structure of the CAP has been salvaged, it will suffer major budget cuts of an estimated 15% to 25%, which will affect direct payments to farmers and is liable to spark renewed protests.

Since the current structure of the CAP is to be retained, how will the Commission manage the impact of these estimated budget cuts on farmers, particularly when it comes to keeping farms viable and competitive, and ensuring long-term food security and the sustainability of the agricultural sector, given the EU's new strategic priorities?

Submitted: 15.7.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(22 August 2025)**

The proposed Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2028-2034 ⁽¹⁾ reaffirms the strategic role of agriculture and the commitment to ensuring EU food security.

This is reflected, among other things, in a dedicated budget of at least EUR 293.7 billion allocated under the future Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) to income support for farmers, covering instruments from the current CAP's two pillars.

This guarantees that, as today, these familiar tools will continue to provide farmers with stable and predictable support, ensuring they receive a fair income, contribute to environmental and climate sustainability and benefit from investment.

To address possible market disturbances, an additional budget of EUR 6.3 billion is reserved under the Unit Safety Net, a twofold increase compared to the current agricultural reserve.

Finally, an inflation-handling method is also introduced for the whole MFF to avoid that unexpected inflationary shocks impact the EU's ability to deliver on its objectives, including support to farmers and rural areas.

Under the new National and Regional Partnership plans, agriculture and rural areas will benefit from synergies with other policy areas, as well as opportunities to access additional funding, such as for investments in services, or infrastructure, increasing the available funding benefitting farmers further. By overcoming rigidities between funding instruments, the plans maximise the impact of funding and enhance coherence.

The agricultural sector will also benefit from the European Competitiveness Fund and the Horizon Europe Programme 2028-2034, where under policy window 2 around EUR 40 billion will be available, including to foster innovation in health, agriculture, bioeconomy and biotech.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en.