Question for written answer  E-006065/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Krzysztof Jurgiel (ECR)

Subject: The cumulative effect of the European Green Deal strategy on the level of basic farm incomes in each Member State

The EU’s Farm to Fork Strategy and Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 propose, among other things, drastic reductions in the use of plant protection products and the inclusion of at least 25% of agricultural land in organic farming. The above objectives of these strategies, which are linked to the overall direction of the CAP reform, are very ambitious, especially given the proposed short period of time for conducting these change. Meeting the new environmental requirements may therefore pose a serious problem for European agricultural producers, especially those from countries with lower basic farm incomes, and may result in reduced production and a fall in the profitability of farms. This would further widen the existing gaps in the basic income levels of farmers across the Member States.

In light of the above:

1. Has the Commission obtained expert opinions calculating the cumulative effect of all the environmental requirements introduced as part of the European Green Deal on the profitability of farm production in individual Member States?

2. How does the Commission justify the fact that the new environmental requirements are being imposed on Member States evenly, while there is still a lack of convergence in direct payments for EU farms, which largely determine the economic position of a farm and its competitive strength in the common agricultural market?