UPA criticizes that the budgets of Rajoy for 2018 perpetuate the abandonment of the rural environment

The draft General State Budgets for 2018 presented on March 3 by the Government did not like anything of the Spanish farmers and ranchers. The UPA rural organization has "very harmful" accounts for the millions of people who live and work in villages. "The budgets show that the Government is committed to citizens by announcing policies that remain in nothing by not having a budget allocation," lamented from UPA.

According to a statement from the agrarian organization, the government does not intend to reverse the cuts suffered by rural policies in Spain for almost a decade. The Union of Small Farmers and Cattle Ranchers (UPA) has denounced that the General State Budget Project for 2018 "will not end the abandonment suffered by the people, will not fight against depopulation and climate change, nor will it provide security or confidence to farmers and Spanish breeders ".

> *The Union of Small Farmers and Ranchers has criticized the "dramatic" cut of 21% in the fight against climate change* - which adds to the one in 2017, which was 45.64%. "The main challenge of the sector is thus practically abandoned," they lamented.

Agricultural insurance will also continue to be expensive, since the hiring aid has been frozen for

several years, "in these years also very complicated climate, which make it very necessary for the agricultural insurance system to act as a safety net that prevents the closure of agricultural operations" .

The aid to nuts or the fight to improve plant health, taking into account threats as serious as that of xylella fastidiosa, also "shine by their absence" in the new project of state budgets, has assured this organization.

> UPA has asked the Government to "reconsider and rectify", and has urged the parliamentary groups to "bet on the rural environment and agricultural activity as a generator of employment."

And they have apostille that "this budget project will not help solve the many problems suffered by the rural environment," they say, so *they have called on all political forces to reject this project "forcefully" and defend one that gives solutions to the great challenges that the rural environment has: the depopulation and the lack of employment and services .*

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