

**Question for written answer E-009286/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Deregulation of the sugar market in Europe on 1 October 2017

On 1 October 2017, the sugar market will be totally liberalised within the European Union. We are therefore at risk of seeing our market flooded with glucose syrup made from maize originating from the US.

However, this sugar has been shown to be seriously harmful to the health of consumers, in particular by causing diabetes and by making the illness worse among those already suffering from it.

Furthermore, virtually all maize grown in the US is GM, therefore the glucose syrup made from this maize will be GM as well, something which also poses problems in terms of public health and consumer information.

Finally, glucose syrup made from maize, a low-cost product, risks causing difficulties for producers of cane sugar and sugar beet. European farmers will therefore be in danger in the very short term.

1. How does the Commission intend to ensure the safety of consumers in the face of the dangers posed by glucose syrup made from maize, in terms of the risk of diabetes, on the one hand, and its potential genetic modifications, on the other?
2. What measures does it propose taking in order to protect European farmers against competition from non-EU countries?