

**Question for written answer E-009843/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Louis Aliot (NI)

Subject: Liberalisation of the Sugar Market

In 2017, the **common organisation of the markets in the sugar sector** in the EU will end the system of quotas by country and support for market prices. The sugar market will be fully deregulated in the European Union.

Some experts believe that this liberalisation will cause an explosion in obesity and diabetes and fear that the Union will be flooded with corn (i.e. maize) syrup.

Corn syrup with a high fructose content is widely used in the US, because it is cheaper than sugar beet and sugar cane. It has caused a full-blown epidemic of obesity in the United States since it was introduced.

There is a danger that the European industry will rush to use corn syrup as a food sweetener, as it is cheaper, sweeter and easier to use.

French beet growers who in 2001 already had to contend with unorthodox competition from the Balkan countries, including Serbia and Montenegro and Croatia, will now be hit very hard by this decision.

Why persist in this path rather than maintaining an appropriate degree of regulation by respecting quotas, as is the case today, an approach which combines respect for producers with obesity prevention?