

**Question for written answer E-000557/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Mara Bizzotto (NI)

Subject: US-China agreement for the exportation of fake 'made in Italy' cheeses

A few weeks ago, the United States and China reached an agreement allowing the US industry to export to the Asian market all the cheeses that infringe protected designation of origin brands by imitating Italian and European originals such as Parmesan and Asiago.

This means the counterfeit cheese market will expand from the United States, where it is legal and flourishing, to China, with the resulting loss of further market shares for producers who, in the case of Italy, are already being defrauded of at least EUR 60 billion a year because of counterfeiting.

- What is the Commission's opinion of this agreement?
- How is the Commission going to protect Italian and European producers who are already suffering because of these food frauds?