

**Question for written answer E-000879/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Traceability of European products

Consumer protection has been one of the pillars of European policy in recent decades. On the other hand, the freedom of the single European market for the Member States and numerous arrangements which the EU has with third countries often bring into question the safety of consumers. We have witnessed numerous scandals with food products placed on the EU market. Such products found on many shelves often undermine the credibility of the EU consumer protection policy. In addition, Europe is an important tourist destination and tourists are known to like to enjoy local food, but what very often happens is that instead of the local gastronomy we have imported products from different continents. This applies, for example, to beef as well as to squid and other seafood products, olive oil, fruit and vegetables etc. In recent years, there has been constant talk of the need for product traceability as a potential guarantee of correct information to every consumer.

I ask the Commission what it has done and what it is currently doing to strengthen the control of product traceability and commit manufacturers and distributors of food products to respect the need for and guarantee consumers clear information about this?