

**Question for written answer E-001974/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Labelling the origin of processed meat products

The main aim of food labelling is to provide consumers with consistent and transparent information to enable them to make informed choices at an affordable price. Information on the origin of processed meat products can be an asset for consumers who are willing to pay for it. However, the absence of this information does not jeopardise food quality, nor endanger consumer health, given that all meat producers operating in the market are properly licensed. The current legislative framework requires obligatory labelling of product origin. The omission of such information is likely to mislead the consumer as to the country of origin or place of provenance of food.

According to information provided by the sector, the requirement for labelling to indicate the origin of meat in processed foods will have serious consequences and may cause disruption, significant inefficiency and increased production costs, impacting on the sector's competitiveness.

Can the Commission indicate the studies which are the basis for this decision? Moreover, in relation to these studies, it is essential to know how such a measure was intended to be carried out and the associated costs incurred by operators. Finally, can the Commission tell us how the whole process will be monitored?