Question for written answer E-008671/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Svetoslav Hristov Malinov (PPE)

Subject: Safety guarantees for European consumers under the TTIP agreement

As an MEP I have followed with interest the course of the negotiations between the EU and the USA on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). Following a public debate on the subject, I undertook to work with citizens who are concerned about TTIP and to relay their misgivings. Many people are worried about consumer health and safety because they believe the considerable differences between the EU and US regulatory systems will rule out a joint approach in this regard.

After the recent ninth round of the TTIP negotiations, the Commission published a practical proposal for regulatory cooperation and for clear guarantees in the TTIP agreement that the parties' regulatory sovereignty to set their own policy objectives would be unaffected.

However, people still have certain concerns about the agreement, namely that it could adversely affect the systems for inspecting, identifying and tracing goods, and could make it harder to prove that imported products had caused harm and to have them withdrawn from the market.

Can the Commission therefore tell me whether, and how, the TTIP agreement will be compatible with the safety guarantees and systems that European consumers currently enjoy (for example under Directive 2001/95/EC on general product safety, the product safety legislation for specific sectors and the Rapid Alert System for dangerous non-food products (RAPEX))?