

**Question for written answer E-010398/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: New World wine

New World wine refers primarily to wines produced in South Africa, Argentina, Australia, the United States (California) and Chile. The whole production process of these wines is highly industrialised, reducing production costs.

Unlike the circumscribed areas that exist in Europe, these wines are obtained by harvesting grapes grown on vast estates, which keeps the product constant from one year to the next. Australian wine is produced from all the country's wines together so as to keep its quality consistent. Another feature of these wines is the advertising budgets invested in promoting them, which are very close to the amounts expended by Danone, McDonald's or Coca-Cola.

Given this context, in which the production process is completely different from what is found in the small wine-producing regions of Europe, with no link to the soil or the region, is the Commission not afraid that the announced liberalisation of vine planting is liable to put the entire European wine sector at risk?