

**Question for written answer E-001449/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Origin labelling of meat used in ready meals

Three years after the scandal involving horsemeat in lasagne ready meals, a study by a French consumer organisation on the labelling of 244 processed products from 20 different brands has revealed that 54% of labels fail to specify the origin of the meat the products contain.

In its answer to written question E-006988/2015, the Commission wrote that 'mandatory origin labelling for meat used as an ingredient does not appear to be an appropriate way forward, taking into account the weak consumers' willingness to pay for such information, the considerable administrative burden this would imply, and more generally, the far-reaching impacts that this may have [...] on EU competitiveness and trade'.

Consumer watchdogs claim that origin labelling would increase the cost of the products concerned by only 0.7%, however, while the French National Association of Food Industries (ANIA) reports that many brands already supply this information.

1. Will the Commission listen to consumers on this matter?
2. Given the insignificant additional cost that labelling would entail, how does improving the traceability of meat pose a threat to EU competitiveness and trade?