Question for written answer E-001881/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)

Subject: Illicit sale of food donated by the European Union

On 25 February 2016, it was announced that an establishment in Pamplona (Navarra) was selling food donated by the European Union for people in need. That food is, of course, free of charge and selling it is banned. Indeed, it is distributed to ensure that disadvantaged people have access to basic products.

The person in charge of the establishment has not clarified how it managed to gain access to those products, some of which were also found in their warehouse.

In that context, it seems that, even though all food parcels donated by the European Union are labelled '2013 Food Aid Programme for the most deprived people in the European Union. Free products – Not for sale', checks have been found wanting.

What checks are carried out by the European Union in an effort to avoid such incidents?

1088301.EN PE 578.319