

**Question for written answer E-004753/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Richard Sulík (ECR)

Subject: Misleading consumers

Article 7(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers sets out that 'Food information shall not be misleading, particularly [...] by suggesting that the food possesses special characteristics when in fact all similar foods possess such characteristics, in particular by specifically emphasising the presence or absence of certain ingredients and/or nutrients'.

For the benefit of consumers, a Slovak producer printed on a packet of mustard 'Does not contain gluten'. The majority (but not all) of Slovak producers do not add gluten to mustard, and most mustards sold on the Slovak market come from Slovak producers. However, mustards containing gluten are sold in Slovakia (mainly mustard produced in other countries, for example, in the UK and sold in Slovakia in retail chains together with products produced in Slovakia).

What proportion of mustards containing gluten must there be on the Slovak market in order for the advice 'does not contain gluten' on mustard packets not to be contrary to Article 7 of Regulation No 1169/2011?

Can the information label for the same product vary in content in different language versions if the product is exported to another Member State where there is a higher proportion of mustards containing gluten on the market?

Does the Commission believe, on the basis of the information provided, that the Slovak producer which printed 'does not contain gluten' on its packets of mustard to be sold in Slovakia acted contrary to Article 7 of Regulation No 1169/2011?