

**Question for written answer E-007007/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Labelling of French products

As of 1 January 2017, it will be obligatory to state the country of origin of meat on the labels of ready meals in France, along with the origin of milk in dairy products. This is part of an experimental two-year initiative that is being launched with the Commission's approval.

Despite the French Government's claim that this measure will enable citizens to access better information, and that producers will see the quality of their work recognised as a result, the setup could be detrimental to the sale of Community products that do originate in France.

1. Is the Commission not concerned that this decision by the French Government will set a precedent and lead to growing fragmentation of the European market, resulting in distortions of competition?
2. What arguments did the Commission take into consideration when approving the measure?