Question for written answer E-007239/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: CETA and meat import quotas

Under the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada, provision is being made for annual quotas for importing hormone-free beef (50 000 tons annually) and pork (75 000 tonnes annually). This and other aspects of the agreement affect the agricultural sectors in the EU.

As is widely known, 80% of the antibiotics used in Canada are used as growth factors in animal feed. Furthermore, ractopamine, which has been banned in the EU since 1996, is widely used in Canada.

Given the difficulty with detecting these substances in meat and that large-scale fraudulent activity would undermine public health, consumer rights and the survival of our farming sector, how would the Commission prevent fraud from taking place?

How will the Commission protect the more than 1 220 products labelled PDO (protected designation of origin) or PGI (protected geographical indication) which are not covered by the CETA agreement?