

**Question for written answer E-004724/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (ENF)**

Subject: Genetically modified honey

In keeping with the 'honey' judgment handed down by the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) in September 2011, honey which contains genetically modified pollen as an ingredient must be labelled accordingly.

When revising the Honey Directive, the Commission responded by defining pollen not as an ingredient but as a natural component of honey. As a result, honey which contains genetically modified pollen need no longer be labelled as such. The CJEU took the view that this interpretation would undermine the objective of protecting human health, since a foodstuff such as honey would escape any safety checks, even though it might contain significant quantities of genetically modified material.

1. What view does the Commission take of the potentially adverse impact of genetically modified foodstuffs on people?
2. What justification can there be for labelling honey as not genetically modified if the pollen which forms a natural part of it has been genetically manipulated?
3. Does the Commission see genetically modified food as a means of combating world hunger?