

**Question for written answer E-001342/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Second draft delegated act on organic salt production

Following talks with organic salt producers, concerns have reached us regarding the Commission's second draft delegated act on regulating organic salt production.

European producers of hand-harvested sea salt can neither accept nor endorse the proposal, since it would define almost every salt-for-food production method as organic, thus ignoring the principles and objectives of the EU's regulation on organic production.

This draft act defines a number of practices as organic production, including rock salt mining by power drilling and grinding, mining using low-emission explosives and even using water or unsaturated brine to dissolve rock salt.

Given their environmental impact and organic footprint, what is the Commission's assessment of the inclusion of these practices as organic salt production methods? What is its view on the reaction from Artisanal Sea Salt Europe and how will it respond to its critics?