

**Question for written answer E-002199/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Extensive replacement of products obtained from milk in catering establishments

The National Authority for Consumers' Protection (ANPC) has checked over 700 catering establishments, focusing on the fairness of trade practices regarding use of hydrogenated fats instead of products obtained exclusively from milk. The investigation has revealed that 40% of economic operators use hydrogenated fats instead of products obtained from milk – various types of cheese, butter - and, therefore, that consumers are being cheated.

In the period 21 January – 8 March 2019, in Bucharest and in all the main municipalities in each county, the ANPC, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and the national sanitary veterinary and food safety authority, checked the name of the food products for sale, in relation to the composition data on the labels.

They checked 233 pastry shops, 157 confectioneries (as well as labs belonging to confectioneries/pastry shops), 182 pizzerias, 73 restaurants/catering establishments, 52 fast-food stores and 11 bakeries. LEI 1 782 000 worth of fines, as well as 177 warning sanctions, were applied. 285 of the 708 catering establishments were found to have replaced milk products with products obtained from hydrogenated fats.

Can the Commission say how this extremely harmful phenomenon in catering establishments can be abolished?