

**Question for written answer P-007122/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Laurențiu Rebega (S&D)

Subject: Mandatory labelling of the origin/main ingredients of foodstuffs

The Romanian food processing industry has been living through wholesale change, not least in response to the requirements of the EU's regulatory framework and, subsequently, to keep pace with the changes in this. The costs associated with adapting to new legislation should be borne in mind, as should the general economic and social situation in each country.

Under Article 26(2) of Regulation EC 1169/2011 it is mandatory for the origin of foodstuffs to be indicated on their labelling in certain circumstances and for given products (Article 26 (5)). The possibility of this being made mandatory for other products would also seem to be under investigation. The Commission is due to present a report on this matter by December 2014. A Romanian dairy company was selected to help in preparing this report by providing statistics and cost estimates.

Its findings show that a high level of initial investment is needed to implement a mandatory system of origin labelling and that the costs to individual milk producers in Romania would be prohibitive.

Could the Commission therefore state, with particular reference to the dairy sector (Article 26(c) and (f)), which will already find itself in difficulties owing to the abolition of quotas, whether transitional measures are to be proposed and/or whether the economic and social situation of processors in certain EU countries, such as Romania, will be taken into account in the event of original labelling becoming mandatory?