

**Question for written answer P-014463/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Esther Herranz García (PPE), Pilar Ayuso (PPE), Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso (PPE) and Gabriel Mato (PPE)**

Subject: Tomato imports

The entry price system for fruit and vegetables was modified during the most recent reforms to the agricultural sector to stop irregularities detected up to that point. However, the Commission subsequently decided to alter, as from the 2014/2015 marketing year, how the overall value of tomato imports from the main importing countries is calculated so that all varieties – including ‘cherry’ tomatoes and not just ‘round’ tomatoes – are included in the total figure. This change relaxes protection at the border, making it a retrograde step after the progress achieved in the reform, and makes it impossible to judge the real state of the market.

Now the Commission is planning to introduce a weekly calculation of this overall import value, instead of a daily one, which will render the system less efficient.

Spain, France and Italy have all asked the Director-General for Agriculture, Jerzy Bogdan Plewa, to use the modification currently being prepared by the Commission to the delegated and implementing acts on fruit and vegetables, to establish import values that differentiate between different types of tomato.

What is the Commission’s opinion of these proposals? What effect has the change in the calculation method had on overall import values and how has it affected the entry of low-cost round tomatoes into the EU? What is the Commission’s justification for its latest proposal?