

**Question for written answer P-014905/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Constance Le Grip (PPE)

Subject: Labelling products manufactured in the 'Occupied Palestinian Territories' with the label 'Israeli settlement'

According to the Commission's figures, products originating in the 'Occupied Palestinian Territories' account for less than 1% of trade between Israel and the EU. These products, mainly agricultural (olive oil, wine, dates, honey, fruit and vegetables, etc.) but also industrial and cosmetic goods, are manufactured in the geographical areas annexed by Israel in 1967: East Jerusalem, the West Bank, the Golan Heights and the Gaza Strip. Although products from the West Bank and, more widely, the 'Occupied Territories' do not benefit from tax exemptions under the free trade agreement between the EU and Israel, they were up until 11 November 2015 labelled as being made in Israel.

However, on that date the College of Commissioners approved the Commission's 'guidelines' calling on the Member States to use the label 'Israeli settlement' on products manufactured on 'Occupied Palestinian Territories', citing a 'technical issue' to inform consumers under EU legislation on consumer protection.

1. What was the decision-making process that led to this measure?
2. What are the legal bases and/or the specific laws that authorised the Commission to take this decision?