

**Question for written answer P-002931/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Norbert Erdős (PPE)**

Subject: Detailed results of coordinated food safety monitoring of mixed honey

A coordinated food safety monitoring exercise commissioned by the European Commission last February involved the testing of 2 230 samples of mixed honey sold in the EU's internal market. Preliminary results suggest that 17% of these show signs of food fraud. However, this proportion represents 29% of the imported honey collected at the EU's external border. It is thus evident that nearly one third of the honey imported into the EU is fake and is in fact common sugar syrup. We need to identify those non-EU countries bringing unhealthy foods into the EU.

I would like to ask the Commission the following questions:

1. In the laboratory tests undertaken so far, exactly which non-EU countries do the samples of imported honey which failed the tests come from?
2. Which three countries do the tests show that the largest quantity of fake honey came from?
3. Does the Commission intend the Joint Research Centre laboratory to test the mixed honey samples by methods other than organoleptic and magnetic resonance testing, for example by establishing which constituent substances are absent in the fake honey (e.g. flavonoids)?