

Question for written answer P-001704/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Non-conformity of meat exports within Europe

On 12 March 2018, the European Commission ratified the notification it received from the Belgian national contact point for the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed regarding the non-conformity of products from a meat processing facility. These non-conformities related to the mislabelling of beef and the illegal use of animal (slaughterhouse) by-products not for human consumption.

According to the information forwarded by the Belgian authorities, these products have so far been distributed in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

An employee at Veviba, the company concerned, has spoken publicly on Belgian radio of the way in which beef products were relabelled so as to conceal the fact they were unfit for human consumption, before being exported to countries in South-East Europe.

Can the Commission please check whether Romania is one of the countries to which Veviba meat products have been exported, after being adulterated with paste obtained from bovine carcasses. Can it also indicate whether the Belgian authorities know that these products were relabelled so as to conceal the fact that their 'best before'/'use by' date had expired, which is a fraudulent act liable to endanger the lives and health of consumers in Romania.