

**Question for written answer P-001752/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Giancarlo Scottà (ENF)

Subject: Exclusion of registered trade marks from the scope of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/775

The 'Italian sounding' phenomenon is doing huge damage to the Italian agri-food sector, amounting to more than EUR 90 billion worldwide, a figure which has risen by 70% in the last ten years to treble the export sales recorded by the Italian food industry (EUR 32.1 billion in 2017).

Indications of the country of origin or the place of provenance of a food which are part of registered trade marks fall within the scope of Article 26(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011, the object being to establish a clear link between a given commercial source and particular products.

Trade marks have, however, been excluded from the scope of Regulation (EU) 2018/775, which instead refers to the need to further examine how the origin of primary food ingredients should be indicated, taking into account their specific nature.

- 1) Will the Commission take steps to prevent Italian food companies from being harmed by this omission in Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/775?
- 2) Will it seek to eliminate trade marks that call to mind a certain source when the true origin of the foods in question is in fact different? If so, when and how?