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WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on the differences in declarations, composition and taste of products in eastern and western markets of the EU

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Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on the differences in declarations, composition and taste of products in eastern and western markets of the EU¹

1. Some studies have confirmed differences in declarations, composition and taste of products in eastern and western markets of the EU.
2. It has been demonstrated that many products sold in 'eastern' markets are of much lower quality and contain far fewer high-quality ingredients than those sold in the western market. This problem affects a wide spectrum of products — from food and toiletries to detergents and disinfectants — which are of inferior quality to 'identical' products in the western segment of the EU market.
3. We are engaged in negotiations with the USA on TTIP; meanwhile, our own market is still far from uniform.
4. Given that the EU has a single market, the Commission is called upon to monitor the situation, take steps to bring order to the single market and reduce discrimination against consumers in the eastern Member States.
5. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.