European Parliament

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Plenary sitting

B8-0590/2018

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure on combating food waste in the European Union

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B8-0590/2018

Motion for a resolution on combating food waste in the European Union

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas there are 118 million people at risk of poverty in the EU, 18 million of whom are Italian, according to data from Istat's 2018 report on the SDGs;
- B. whereas more than 50 million tonnes of fresh fruit and vegetables more than a third of total production in Europe are discarded in the EU every year;
- C. whereas, according to a study published in August 2018 by the University of Edinburgh, this food waste is attributable to the fact that large retailers and current EU legislation impose strict appearance-based standards determining which fruit and vegetables are fit for sale, causing vast quantities of imperfect but edible produce to be discarded;
- D. whereas this waste is intolerable for the millions of people suffering economic hardship and also deprives farmers of profits,
- 1. Calls on the Commission to consider reviewing the standards determining what fruit and vegetables are fit for sale in the EU;
- 2. Also invites the Commission to consider awareness-raising measures to combat food waste in the EU.

