

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Guido Podestà

on Protected Geographical Indications

Lapse date: 19.6.2008

Written declaration on Protected Geographical Indications

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. having regard to the importance of the Community Trade Mark and the need, by means of that instrument, to protect products and the rich diversity of the countries which make up the European Union,
- B. whereas the term 'Protected Geographical Indication' - better known by the acronym PGI - refers to a mark of origin assigned to those agricultural and food products in the case of which a particular quality, their reputation or some other characteristic depends on their geographical origin and which are produced and/or processed in a particular geographical area,
- C. whereas the purpose of the PGI is to provide consumers with accurate information, and to do so in a concise and immediately comprehensible form,
- D. whereas any product indication which causes doubt in the minds of consumers regarding characteristics, origin or mode of production seriously damages the credibility of the method of assigning Protected Geographical Indications,
 1. Calls upon Member States and the Commission to regard the registration of the variety 'Rosso di Verona' by a business which produces seeds in Holland as fraudulent misrepresentation to the detriment of European consumers;
 2. Calls upon the Commission to submit appropriate legislative proposals relating to this field, taking account of all relevant risks and policies;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council and Commission.