

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3456/08  
by Ioannis Gklavakis (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Chlorinated chickens

A few days ago, the Commission decided to request a conditional lifting of the ban on imports of 'chlorinated' American chickens into the EU, i.e. poultry which has been immersed in a chlorine solution after slaughter in order to kill off any bacteria which may have developed in production plants.

Since poultry farming in the European Union is subject to stringent supervisory rules throughout the production process, i.e. from hatching to slaughter, will the Commission say under what conditions it proposes to lift this ban? What are the effects on the health of consumers from eating chlorinated chicken? Are there studies showing it to be harmless? Will European producers also be urged to adopt the same methods?