

WRITTEN QUESTION E-5488/08
by Ioannis Gklavakis (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Marketing standards for olive oil

Olive growing is an important activity for the economy of the regions and the sustainable development of the producer countries, conservation of the countryside and the development of rural tourism.

1. Does the Commission, in the context of the revision of Regulation (EC) 1019/2002¹ on marketing standards for olive oil, intend to make it mandatory to indicate the country of origin of virgin and extra virgin olive oil in order to promote Community production?
2. As regards mixtures of virgin and extra virgin olive oil, will the Commission make it mandatory to indicate the country of origin of the olive oils used?
3. Will the Member States be able to continue, under national legislation, to prohibit the sale of mixtures of olive oil and seed oil on their internal markets in order to protect their traditional products?
4. Does the Commission intend to take further measures to promote Community olive oil in view of the dynamic emergence of new countries to olive oil production, such as the USA, Australia, Argentina and even China?

¹ OJ L 155, 14.6.2002, p. 27.