

**Question for written answer E-005774/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Impact assessment of nutrient profiles under Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006

The Nutrition and Health Claims Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 provides for compliance with nutrient profiles as a prerequisite for health or nutritional claims made on foods. These nutrient profiles do not yet exist, and the Commission is apparently now planning to carry out an initial impact assessment.

In view of this, could the Commission answer the following:

1. Why did the Commission not carry out an impact assessment before publishing the proposed regulation, even though it is obliged to do so?
2. Why was the European Parliament not informed that the Commission is now planning an impact assessment for nutrient profiles?
3. What will the nature of this impact assessment be, and what timeframe is planned for this purpose?
4. Who is to be entrusted with the implementation of the assessment?
5. Are there plans to consult stakeholders? If not, what data is to be used as a basis for the impact assessment?
6. How can the Commission ensure that the legal evaluation of nutrient profiles is also taken into consideration?
7. How can the Commission ensure that an impact assessment regarding the efficacy of nutrient profiles in preventing obesity, in particular among children and young people, is included? After all, prevention was the main argument used by the Commission in support of nutrient profiles. Are there plans to carry out scientific studies for this purpose?
8. How can the Commission ensure that the impact assessment will also include the negative effects of nutrient profiles on consumer information, as, under certain circumstances, it may no longer be permissible to provide important information about foodstuffs?
9. Are there plans to show in the impact assessment how to prevent foodstuffs from being divided into 'first and second classes'?