

**Question for written answer E-000622/2014
to the Commission
Rule 117
Philippe de Villiers (EFD)**

Subject: Corn syrup

From 2017, the European Union will welcome onto its territory high-fructose corn syrup, even though cane sugar will still be subject to the quota regime.

In Europe, industry uses natural sugar – the low quotas currently set by the European Union for the import of high-glucose corn syrup are not the only reason for this. In the United States, this technology is already widespread, in particular in fizzy drinks, which are for the most part sweetened with isoglucose derived from corn.

Many experts believe that isoglucose is partly responsible for the increase in obesity in the United States, as this complex molecule is very difficult to destroy and to assimilate for the human body.

1. Having regard to the precautionary principle, which is so dear to the Commission, were independent studies carried out before the quotas on the import of corn syrup were lifted?
2. Why is preference not being given to beet sugar from European production facilities or to cane sugar, on which many European refineries depend?