

**Question for written answer E-001333/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Rareş-Lucian Niculescu (PPE)

Subject: World obesity epidemic fuelled by market deregulation

A study published in the bulletin of the World Health Organisation recommends stepping up government action as an initial means of preventing problems caused by excess weight and obesity with their potentially serious long-term consequences such as diabetes, heart diseases and cancer.

Suggested policies include economic incentives for farmers to sell healthy fresh foods, extra taxes on industries selling ultra-processed foods and sweet fizzy drinks, reduced subsidies for producers and companies that use large amounts of fertiliser, pesticides, chemicals and antibiotics and tighter regulation of fast food advertising, especially where targeted at children.

In view of this:

1. What view does the Commission take of the above recommendations by WHO experts?
2. What assistance is the Commission providing for Member States with a view to limiting the impact on consumer health of ultra-processed foods and sweet fizzy drinks?