

**Question for written answer E-008970/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Industrially produced trans fatty acids (ITFAs) in food

The detrimental effects of industrially produced TFAs (ITFAs) on health are no longer disputed: a daily intake of 5 gr of ITFA is proved to increase the risk of coronary heart disease (CHD) by 23 %.

CHD is the most common cause of death in the EU, accounting for over 680 000 deaths every year, and is estimated to cost the EU EUR 60 billion yearly.

Setting a statutory upper limit on ITFAs is the most effective way to reduce the intake at a population level. Within the EU, Austria, Denmark and Hungary have adopted legislation to restrict ITFAs in the food chain. Setting a statutory upper limit for ITFAs does not lead to higher costs and does not alter the taste of foods that contain them.

Further to the Food Information to Consumers Regulation (No 1169/2011), the Commission must submit a report on the presence of ITFAs in foods and in the overall diet of the EU population, and to accompany this report with a legislative proposal, if appropriate.

Can the Commission therefore say whether – and, if so, when – it will present a legislative proposal aimed at regulating the presence of ITFAs in food marketed in the European Union?