Question for written answer E-001666/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Marketing standards for poultry meat

The European Commission is in the process of revising the delegated act on marketing standards for poultry meat. Since 1991, European legislation has set a minimum weight — 300 g for ducks and 400 g for geese — for a product to be marketed under the name ‘foie gras’. These weights were fixed on the basis of scientific studies showing that livers weighing less than 300 grams and 400 grams respectively cannot be regarded as foie gras, since not all the cells are fatty. According to those studies, these figures ought even to be increased.

Due to the high value of the product, fraudulent versions of foie gras appear on the market, and a minimum weight also guarantees that the finished product will taste good. It is in the interests of consumers – who should not be misled – and producers, who want to maintain a product of outstanding quality, to maintain or even increase the weights currently laid down by Commission Regulation (EC) No 543/2008.

Accordingly, will the Commission propose that the minimum weight of livers be maintained or even increased in the future delegated act?