Question for written answer E-006271/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Claude Gruffat (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Informing consumers about food products

A large number of consumers have difficulties understanding the final consumption dates marked on the packaged foods they buy. This lack of understanding lies at the root of large amounts of food waste. In its 2015 Opinion on the definition of perishable and highly perishable food products, the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (ANSES) had already pointed to these dates as being the leading cause of food waste by consumers. A large number of food products are thrown away while they can still be safely eaten without any danger to health.

The Commission has said on several occasions that it wants to tackle the problem of food waste. Why then, has it not yet proposed any amendments to Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers?