WRITTEN QUESTION P-3518/02 by Ursula Schleicher (PPE-DE) to the Commission

Subject: Product labelling

The labelling of food and cosmetic products, for example, is becoming ever more detailed. Although such detailed information is to some extent a response to consumer demand, it also creates problems in terms of presentation. Consumers are increasingly complaining that the print on labels is too small and therefore hardly legible or that the national language is not given prominence or does not even appear at all on leaflets accompanying products.

What view does the Commission take of this problem?

Can the Commission provide a list of product groups which are covered by European labelling rules that no longer allow independent national regulation?

Is it possible when transposing European labelling rules to stipulate the size of print at national level or to require the national language to be given prominence?

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