

**Question for written answer P-003546/2011  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Richard Ashworth (ECR)**

Subject: Discrepancies in import tariffs for denatured and undenatured ethanol

I understand that the tariff for import is 10.2 cents per litre for undenatured ethyl alcohol (ethanol), which primarily applies to Germany, France and Belgium, whereas the import of denatured ethanol is classified differently and carries a much lower tariff of 6.4 cents per litre and applies to the UK and the Netherlands.

The result of this discrepancy is that the UK is losing revenue on imported ethanol and that our market is being flooded with cheap ethanol which provides a huge disincentive for UK-based production.

Therefore, what steps is the Commission taking to address the discrepancy in import tariffs for denatured and undenatured ethanol in Europe?