

**Question for written answer P-012059/2013  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Struan Stevenson (ECR)**

Subject: European mountain quality label

The Commission is about to approve delegated legislation confirming the designation of a European mountain quality label.

The delegated act provides for a change to the rule established in the basic regulation which would authorise, by default, the denomination as mountain products of processed dairy products (milk and cheese) made within 30 km of mountain areas, without the need for any justifying criteria. Many Member States, industry and the advisory group on quality believed that no derogation should be granted by default and that, instead, national authorities should have the right to grant derogations in duly justified cases.

Can the Commission therefore explain why it should press ahead with this damaging act despite such broad opposition?