

**Question for written answer P-011661/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Beata Gosiewska (ECR)

Subject: Combating unfair trading practices in the food supply chain

On 7 August 2014, the Russian Government imposed a one-year ban on imports of certain goods and agri-food products from the EU.

In Poland, the ban has been blamed for the drastic fall in the price of fruit and vegetables supplied by producers to processing plants. Polish blackcurrant farmers, for example, are paid between PLN 0.3 and 0.6 per kilogram (depending on the region), which covers about 25 % of the cost of production. Producers of other kinds of fruit, for example strawberries, raspberries and apples, are in a similar situation. Consumers are not benefiting from this drastic fall in prices, however, as blackcurrants cost PLN 4 in the shops – 13 times more than the price paid to producers.

Does the Commission agree that processors and retailers are abusing their dominant market position and bargaining power in this situation?

Can it say if and how it plans to tackle the unfair trading practices of companies which are using their strong market position to pay producers much less for goods without lowering the prices they charge consumers?

Does the Commission intend to put forward a draft regulation to tackle the issue?