

**Question for written answer E-015472/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Paloma López Bermejo (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Misleading labelling of products from Western Sahara

The Commission recently published a series of guidelines in which it described as 'incorrect and misleading' any labelling declaring an item to be a 'product of Israel' when in fact it originates in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, the correct labelling thus being 'of Gaza', 'of Palestine' – or indeed clarifying that the item originates in an Israeli settlement in Palestine.

International legal experts have confirmed that these guidelines should apply equally to other territories occupied in violation of international law and, in particular, to products originating in Western Sahara illegally occupied by the Kingdom of Morocco. Consequently the label 'product of Western Sahara' (and not 'product of Morocco') should be used on any product originating in the occupied territories of Western Sahara and marketed in Europe.

Is the Commission aware of the parallels between the illegal occupation of Palestine by the State of Israel and that of Western Sahara by the Kingdom of Morocco?

Would it therefore consider that the guidelines used for the labelling of Palestinian products should also apply to Western Saharan products?