

**Question for written answer E-014792/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Manolis Kefalogiannis (PPE)**

Subject: Protecting Greek and European orange growers' income

80 % of all fruit juice consumed in the European Union is produced in Brazil and 66 % of this fruit juice is sold by major European supermarket chains as a private-label product. According to recent reports by NGOs and consumer associations, undeclared labour is generally used for the cultivation and production and harvesting of oranges in Brazil, including children between the ages of 5 and 14 who are paid as little as EUR 9 per day. Farmers are paid EUR 2.60 for each case of oranges (40.8 kg). The reports also express concern at non-compliance with environmental standards and the overuse of pesticides.

As result, European growers of citrus fruit, especially oranges are being forced to sell their products at cost price, since they are in a very weak position to bargain with traders and supermarkets.

In view of this:

What steps will the Commission take to combat child labour and, more generally, to uphold the human rights of farmers in Brazil and elsewhere?

What steps can it take to discourage European supermarket chains from importing oranges from Brazil and other agricultural products cultivated and harvested with no regard for quality and safety standards equivalent those applicable in Europe?