

**Question for written answer E-015222/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Ángela Vallina (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Labelling of products from the territory of Western Sahara occupied by Morocco

On 11 November 2015, the Commission adopted an interpretative notice stipulating that, in the interests of the protection of European consumers, that State of Israel must label its products to show whether or not they originate in the occupied territories; as the High Representative herself has said, the Israeli settlements in those territories are illegal. In a similar case, however, the EU is continuing to implement an association agreement with Morocco which helps to generate trade worth EUR 29 250 million per year to that country.

The association agreement remains in force even though Morocco has occupied Western Sahara illegally since 1975, exploiting its valuable reserves of raw materials, such as phosphates, and its substantial fishing grounds.

Does EU law offer any method which consumers can use to check whether products originated in the territories occupied by Morocco? If not, will the Commission consider introducing a labelling requirement similar to that imposed on Israel?

How should the Association Agreement with Morocco, Article 2 of which calls for human rights to be upheld, be viewed in the light of the occupation of Western Sahara?