

**Question for written answer E-015892/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Fraud regarding the protected designation of origin (PDO) labelling of Parma ham

There have been repeated reports in the past of fraud with regard to the production criteria for food products labelled in accordance with one of the EU schemes certifying geographical indications and traditional specialities. For example, on Monday 14 December 2015, Radar, a television programme transmitted in the Netherlands by Dutch broadcaster AVROTROS, reported on fraudulent use of the label for Parma hams. According to the report, Parma-labelled ham is being produced using meat from pigs not raised in the Parma region, in contravention of the criterion for the hams to obtain a PDO-certification of authenticity. In this context, the Commission is asked to answer the following:

1. Is it aware of fraud involving the abuse of EU schemes certifying geographical indications and traditional specialities, and, in particular, is it aware of the allegations of fraud involving the Parma ham certification?
2. What measures is it willing to take to prevent such fraud?
3. Would it consider extending the mandate, and enhance the resources, of the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) in order to coordinate and oversee the works of regional and national European authorities in a better way?