

Question for written answer E-016125/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Giulia Moi (EFDD)

Subject: Legislative proposals posing a threat to the Italian wine sector

The Commission's recent proposals on wine labelling and the mooted liberalisation of the rules governing the use of grape names on labels are hugely worrying.

Adopting a labelling system based on calorie content would have serious and unfair consequences for wine producers. The impact on consumer attitudes of such a labelling system would end up penalising those wines which, by virtue of their intrinsic characteristics, have a high calorie content, putting some producers at a real commercial disadvantage.

Turning to the effects of liberalising the rules on the use of grape names, this would pose a threat to the identity of many traditional local products: such products have characteristics which derive specifically from the raw materials used to make them, which link them to the territory they come from and which give them the uniqueness that sets them apart.

Does the Commission not believe these proposals could be detrimental to the wine sector as a whole?

How does it intend to protect the high quality and uniqueness of leading Italian wines which derive from the specific locations in which they are grown?