

**Question for written answer E-015584/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Emergency autonomous trade measures for Tunisia

The procedure is currently underway on the proposal for a regulation of the EP and of the Council on the introduction of emergency autonomous trade measures for the Republic of Tunisia.

With this proposal, which was prompted by the conclusions of the July Foreign Affairs Council, the Commission intends to offer a temporary unilateral duty-free tariff quota of 35 000 tonnes a year for Tunisian olive oil exports to the EU; this is to take the form of an autonomous trade measure.

Several Member States have expressed concern about a provision of this kind for Tunisia and have also criticised the Commission for going ahead without consulting them.

Why does the proposal, which has just been discussed in Parliament, depart from the Council conclusions of 20 July, which removed any direct reference to advantages to be accorded to Tunisia in the olive oil sector? In addition, have studies been carried out to gauge the impact of this proposal on the European olive oil market?