



European Parliament

Gianna Gancia

Member of the European Parliament

To the attention of Ms Stella Kyriakides
Commissioner for Health and Food Safety

Mr Janusz Wojciechowski
Commissioner for Agriculture

European Commission

Bruxelles, 24 March 2020

Subject: Regulation (EU) 2018/775 application deadline

Dear Commissioner Kyriakides,
Dear Commissioner Wojciechowski

We hereby ask you to postpone the application of the Regulation (EU) 2018/775 of 28 May 2018, laying down rules for the application of Article 26(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the provision of food information to consumers, as regards the rules for indicating the country of origin or place of provenance of the primary ingredient of a food.

While the regulation shall apply from 1 April 2020, we believe that this deadline is not adequate to the overall situation. European enterprises have to comply with the measures adopted by national governments in the face of the Covid-19 crisis. These measures require them to concentrate all the efforts to provide a comprehensive and strong reaction in the fight against the virus. Therefore, we are deeply persuaded that problems in implementing the regulation on time might arise on both sides.

Furthermore, containment measures in Member States will stay in place until the beginning of April, yet further extensions of the lockdowns are expected.

Considering the time that preparing the necessary legal steps to allow a derogation from current rules will take, we believe you should consider moving the deadline to 30 June 2020.

Today more than ever, we strongly believe that decision-makers need to demonstrate their adaptability to every situation and their will to help European citizens in the most fruitful ways.

Looking forward to your swift reaction,

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