Basic information	
2008/2044(DCE) DCE - Written declaration (historic)	Procedure completed
Declaration on investigating and remedying abuse of power by large supermarkets operating in the European Union **Subject** 2.60.01 Trade restrictions, concerted practices, dominant positions 2.60.04 Economic concentration, mergers, takeover bids, holding companies	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
19/02/2008	Decision by Parliament	T6-0054/2008	Summary
19/02/2008	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2008/2044(DCE)
Procedure type	DCE - Written declaration (historic)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 136_
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		T6-0054/2008	19/02/2008	Summary

Declaration on investigating and remedying abuse of power by large supermarkets operating in the European Union

2008/2044(DCE) - 19/02/2008 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a Written Declaration put forward by Caroline **LUCAS** (Greens/ALE, UK), Gyula **HEGYI** (PES, HU), Janusz **WOJCIECHOWSKI** (UEN, PL), Harlem **DESIR** (PES, FR) et Hélène **FLAUTRE** (Greens/ALE, FR) on investigating and remedying abuse of power by large supermarkets operating in the European Union.

Members consider that, throughout the EU, retailing is increasingly dominated by a small number of supermarket chains. These retailers are fast becoming "gatekeepers", controlling farmers' and other suppliers' only real access to EU consumers. Evidence from across the EU suggests large supermarkets are abusing their buying power to force down prices paid to suppliers (based both within and outside the EU) to unsustainable levels and impose unfair conditions upon them. Parliament feels that such squeezes on suppliers have negative knock-on effects on both quality of employment

and environmental protection. Consumers potentially face a loss in diversity of products, cultural heritage and retail outlets. Parliament notes that some Member States have introduced legislation attempting to limit such abuse, yet large supermarkets increasingly operate across national borders, making EU legislation desirable.

Parliament goes on to do the following ;

- it calls on DG Competition to investigate the impact that the concentration of the EU supermarket sector is having on small businesses, suppliers, workers and consumers and, in particular, to assess any abuses of buying power which may follow from such concentration;
- it requests the Commission to propose appropriate measures, including regulation, to protect consumers, workers and producers from any abuse of a dominant position or other negative impact identified in the course of this investigation.