WRITTEN QUESTION E-2871/02 by Charles Tannock (PPE-DE), Neil Parish (PPE-DE) and Theresa Villiers (PPE-DE) to the Commission

Subject: France's illegal ban on the import of British beef

The French government is reported to be considering lifting its illegal ban on British beef. This ban has been in place for over two years. Does the Commission plan to impose a fine on France even if the ban is lifted, and, if so, will it be retrospective?

Can the Commission confirm that if the Commission fails to impose a penalty on France the British government is entitled under the European Treaties to petition the Court of Justice for redress?