

**Question for written answer E-009105/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu (S&D)**

Subject: Possible increase in number of diabetes cases in Europe

Diabetes is the fourth most common cause of death in Europe. According to the World Health organisation, 347 million people worldwide have diabetes and this number is increasing.

The causes for diabetes are very complex, although it is clear that the disease can be prevented by maintaining a healthy diet and a normal body weight.

There is a fear that with the liberalisation of the European sugar market in 2017 there will be an increase in the number of diabetes cases in Europe.

This problem has been linked to the liberalisation of the sugar market due to the resulting increased availability of fructose corn syrup, which is cheaper and sweeter than other sweeteners currently available on the market and which is also responsible for an increase in the number of obesity cases in the US.

Could the Commission indicate its position on the matter, especially as regards the risk that the sugar industry in Europe will use high-concentration fructose corn syrup in food production once this becomes a possibility.

Is the Commission going to conduct further research regarding the impact of corn syrup on health?