

**Question for written answer E-001614/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)**

Subject: Phthalates

In 2012 Denmark banned four types of phthalate, which are used as plasticisers in plastics. These four substances are very harmful to health. The ban is due to come into force in December 2015.

However, a judgment of the EU Court of Justice (Lapin judgment) means that Denmark cannot ban the four phthalates, while the EU is in the process of evaluating the need for EU-wide rules.

1. What will the Commission do to ensure the right of EU citizens – and particularly children – to avoid phthalates, which reduce fertility and affect embryos because of the hormone-disrupters they contain?
2. With reference to the REACH chemical legislation, will the Commission grant an exemption from the rule that a Member State cannot enact separate legislation on a matter being considered by the EU, as was done in the case of Bisphenol A in feeding bottles?
3. Will the Commission allocate more resources and set a deadline so that the EU's investigations can be concluded sooner?