

**Question for written answer E-007430/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (NI)

Subject: Cadmium

Directive 2011/65/EU establishes a much more stringent toxicity threshold for cadmium than for other comparable substances by setting the maximum concentration value tolerated by weight in homogenous materials at 0.01%, 10 times lower than that for the other five substances assessed.

The Commission delegated act of 30 January 2015, however, authorises the use of cadmium in quantum dot technology until June 2018. Given cadmium's high toxicity, the measure represents a flagrant breach of the EU's duty to protect human health and the environment. Less risky alternatives are already available. They are the product of long-term research, carried out by various companies, which deserve backing for choosing an approach which is environmentally friendly and more consistent with a high level of consumer protection.

1. Why is the Commission not doing more to encourage the use of substitutes for cadmium?
2. How does the Commission justify including the provision referred to above in its draft regulation at the same time as it is highlighting the risks associated with cadmium?