

**Question for written answer E-007634/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Jean-Luc Mélenchon (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) promoting the sale of pesticides

On 24 April, the European Commission granted marketing authorisations for 17 GM plants intended for human or animal consumption.

Several of these plants, in particular T25 maize produced by Bayer, have the particular feature of being resistant to glufosinate-based pesticides. Granting or extending authorisations for these plants will therefore lead to a rise in the use of these pesticides, which are moreover sold by the same company. However, for a number of years, numerous expert reports have indicated the dangers of glufosinate, both for agricultural ecosystems and for humans, whether agricultural workers or consumers. This substance is so toxic that the Commission included it on a list of products to be banned by 2017, for which Member States must seek alternatives.

Consequently, why is the Commission authorising GMOs which will intensify use of a product whose use the Commission is otherwise seeking to limit, or even ban?

What justification is there for such an inconsistency in the European Union's agricultural and commercial policy?

What does the Commission intend to do to truly make sure that essential public health and food quality requirements take precedence over the commercial interests of a few companies?