

**Question for written answer E-009386/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Takis Hadjigeorgiou (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Postponement of regulation of chemicals harmful to the hormone system

According to the Pesticides Action Network (PAN) EUROPE, the Commission has postponed until 2016 regulation on chemicals that are harmful to the hormonal system and are associated with autism, cancer and male infertility, following pressure by US interest groups. It should be noted that regulation in this area was originally scheduled for 2014.

However, according to information that has come to light in *The Guardian* newspaper¹, and has not been denied, US interest groups visited European officials on 2 July 2013, and offered to make further impact studies on the matter prior to regulation. They also linked the issue with possible adverse effects on the **Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)** currently being negotiated between the US and the EU. And so, overnight, the Commission agreed.

As a result of the postponement of regulation, trade in 31 pesticides containing chemicals detrimental to the endocrine glands will continue, raising annual health costs for the treatment of specific endocrine diseases and disorders (such as reduced IQ, obesity and infant cryptorchidism) to EUR 150 billion a year.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

- Does it take the view that protecting the health of European citizens, which is its designated mission, is promoted by the acts and practices described above?

¹ <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/may/22/eu-dropped-pesticide-laws-due-to-us-pressure-over-ttip-documents-reveal>