

**Question for written answer E-009810/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: CO₂ emissions from the coal industry claiming the lives of 18 000 European citizens every year

In early June, the Heinrich Böll Foundation published a report entitled 'The 2015 Coal Atlas', in which it condemned the harmful effects of CO₂ emissions.

CO₂ emissions in the air have irreversible adverse effects on both the climate and the health of those people exposed to them. Every year, 18 000 people die as a result of air pollution caused by coal production and coal-fired power plants.

The report furthermore reveals that human rights are not being respected in open coal mines, with the working conditions and safety measures in place being found to be unacceptable and beyond belief.

There is an alternative to coal for those seeking to reduce the dangers it poses to the climate and health. Energy transition, as adopted by the Merkel-led German Government, appears to be the most environmentally friendly solution for reducing the damaging effects of coal.

On the basis of 'The 2015 Coal Atlas', does the Commission plan to take any measures to promote energy transition on a European level, which would make it possible to reduce the severe negative effects that CO₂ emissions have on the climate, people's health, and society as a whole?