

**Question for written answer E-010756/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Hugues Bayet (S&D)**

Subject: Consumers not understanding sunscreen SPF

Researchers at the University of Chicago recently published a study showing that consumers did not understand the labelled sun protection factor on sunscreens. Some 80% of people questioned said they chose their sunscreen on the basis of the maximum protection factor and its resistance to water, yet few of them were aware of the real risks of UVA (95% of UV rays) and UVB (5% of UV rays). UV rays are with us throughout the year but most people don't imagine they are being exposed to their harmful effects every day.

The researchers also highlighted the fact that UVA and UVB information on sunscreen labels was hard to understand and recommended adopting a clearer system. They advised using a star rating system (1, 2, 3 or 4 stars) for UVA and the SPF system for UVB.

1. Is the Commission aware of this US study and of the risks of a lack of clarity in sunscreen labelling?
2. What measures does it intend to take to make sunscreen labelling clearer and easier to understand?