

**Question for written answer E-010771/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Hugues Bayet (S&D)**

Subject: Health sector NGOs disappointed by Commission decision

On 2 June the Commission announced the adoption of the 2015 Work Programme, which includes the health action programme.

Vytenis Andriukaitis, the Commissioner responsible for health, appears to be satisfied with this programme which, according to him, covers a large number of his priorities.

However, Parliament and many NGOs had approached the Commission in the hope that it would draw up a strategy focusing more on alcohol and its ill effects. But the Commission wishes that issue to be included under chronic illness.

Following repeated disappointments, health NGOs feel they no longer have any place in this discussion.

1. Why has the Commission ignored the very many calls from Parliament and public health associations for a strategy on alcohol that is separate from the health programme?
2. Does the Commission not feel it would be interesting and democratic to collaborate with NGOs on drafting a joint strategy to combat the ill effects of alcohol?