

**Question for written answer E-011170/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Chlorate harmful to health

The European Food Safety Authority recently issued an opinion on the presence of chlorate in food. Chlorate can prevent iodine absorption, for which reason prolonged exposure to chlorate is a potential risk for children with iodine deficiency.

The main sources of chlorate are water, fruit and vegetables. As these foods form the basis of a healthy diet, finding suitable ways of rendering these foods 'harmless' would seem to be essential.

The Commission has held a meeting in Brussels with EFSA to assess how noxious chlorate is. What initiatives will come out of this meeting?