

**Question for written answer E-012604/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Viorica Dăncilă (S&D)

Subject: Recycling of medicines

An increasing quantity of medicines that have exceeded their expiry date are accumulating in the Member States, where they are becoming a potential source of pollution and hence a problem for EU citizens.

They cannot be thrown away with the refuse, since they might then be found and ingurgitated by small children. On the other hand, if they are flushed down the lavatory, they simply dissolve, causing soil and groundwater contamination, since they cannot be filtered in purification plants.

In view of this:

Is the Commission seeking to formulate a common strategy in consultation with the Member States, researchers and manufacturers to find sustainable solutions for the recycling of ingredients that can be recovered and reused and the destruction of the remainder?