

**Question for written answer E-013213/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)

Subject: Phthalates and carcinogenic substances in school satchels

The Danish consumer magazine Tænk has conducted a survey to test 9 random school satchels for phthalates, which disrupt hormones, and for naphthalene, which is carcinogenic, because children are in equally close contact with school satchels as with toys. Despite this, the same rules with respect to damaging chemical substances do not apply for school satchels as for toys. In the test referred to, it was found that 3 of the 9 school satchels contained the undesirable substances, and phthalates are for example on the EU list of problematic substances.

Does the Commission agree that children are particularly exposed in connection with damaging chemical substances?

Has the Commission investigated the cocktail effect of these substances on school satchels with a view to tightening the regulations in this area?

Does the Commission agree that dangerous substances in school satchels should be considered on an equal basis to dangerous substances in toys?