

**Question for written answer E-013475/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Sofia Sakorafa (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Volkswagen scandal - responsibilities of the European Commission

The Volkswagen scandal has now become known as one of the worst cases in Europe of large-scale corruption, misinformation and fraud at the expense of the public and the authorities.

The 'inhibitor' software or 'defeat device' used by several car manufacturers to manipulate pollutant emission readings is strictly prohibited under Regulation (EC) No 715/2007 (Euro 5 and Euro 6) and, since 2007, the EU has been seeking to adopt legislation requiring tests on diesel engines to be carried out under 'real' driving conditions.

In its 2013 report, the Commission Joint Research Centre draws attention to the use of sensors and electronic components capable of identifying laboratory testing for pollutant emissions and manipulating the readings accordingly.

In a report adopted by its ITRE Committee on 05/11/2013, Parliament calls on the Commission to respond to the problem of consumer misinformation and seek the adoption without delay of a new statutory vehicle test cycle with procedures reflecting actual driving conditions.

The Commission is obviously aware of the above situation.

In view of this:

Why has it not done everything in its power to investigate the use of 'inhibitor' software to manipulate readings?

Why has it not brought the matter to the attention of the national authorities, enabling them to take the necessary action?

Why has it ignored the urgent recommendations of the Joint Research Centre and the European Parliament for action to be taken to protect public health, consumers and the environment?