

**Question for written answer E-015808/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță (S&D)

Subject: Incidence of premature deaths and the other health and social costs arising from traffic pollution

In its report entitled 'Don't Breathe Here', the environmental NGO Transport & Environment concludes that 'urban air in much of Europe is not fit to breathe, and vehicles, especially diesel cars, are the principal cause'. The report further concludes that the effects of this pollution are 'half a million premature deaths each year; a quarter of a million hospital admissions; and 100 million lost working days cumulatively costing over EUR 900 billion'.

Does the Commission accept the general validity of these findings?

If not, could it indicate which part of the report's main findings it disputes?

Will the Commission:

- a. introduce changes in the current EU taxation regime to support the use of cleaner fuel mixes in all road transport; and
- b. re-examine the illogical situation whereby ethanol, which is the least polluting fuel, is more heavily taxed than its more polluting alternatives?