

**Question for written answer E-000178/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Beatrix von Storch (ECR)**

Subject: Revision of the Firearms Directive: deactivated firearms since 1993 (DG GROW)

Rules on common minimum standards for deactivated firearms and parts thereof have existed since 1993, but implementation of these mandatory deactivation requirements was never enforced by the Commission. The European Parliament therefore included paragraphs on deactivated weapons in Directive 2008/51/EC stating that new rules should be introduced not later than July 2010. The Commission introduced the new rules in November 2015. At the same time, the Commission presented a proposal with additional key aspects such as additional restrictions, confiscation and destruction of most deactivated legally-held arms – even for museums. The Commission's evaluations did not study the impact of the restriction, confiscation and destruction of deactivated guns, but only the impact of new technical rules.

What is the impact of the proposal's additional restrictions as regards compensation and the administrative costs of confiscation and destruction, the registering and licensing of deactivated guns, and the future prosecution of former legal owners who were never informed of this guideline?

Why did the Commission not consult stakeholders on the additional key aspects?

Why did the Commission not introduce new rules in 2010 as demanded, and why does the proposal for a revision not follow the recommendations of the evaluation on common minimum standards?