

**Question for written answer E-000581/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)

Subject: Pollution caused by fireworks at New Year

Every year fireworks worth millions of euros are let off at New Year. They contain numerous chemicals and heavy metals that are thus dispersed into the environment. The vast majority of these fireworks come from countries like China, whose environmental legislation is very different from that which applies in European countries.

Fireworks such as rockets and mortar tubes produce large clouds of smoke when they are let off, and that smoke also contains harmful substances.

What is the Commission's view of this problem?

Has the Commission assessed the extent of this problem and its harmful effects on health and the environment?

Is the Commission taking any steps to reduce the levels of harmful chemicals and heavy metals in fireworks?