

**Question for written answer E-000637/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**José Blanco López (S&D)**

Subject: The Zika virus

We have recently learned that the Zika virus, which can cause very serious neurological deficiencies in fetuses, is spreading across Latin America. Indeed, the Pan American Health Organization has warned that the virus will spread across the entire continent.

There are also reports of Zika cases in Europe, with at least two confirmed cases in Spain.

Given the serious implications of this virus, how does the Commission plan to deal with the threat?