

**Question for written answer E-001040/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Revision of the regulation on pesticides

A German study by Sebastian Stehle and Ralf Schulz of the Institute of Environmental Sciences at the University of Koblenz-Landau reviewed 160 analyses carried out in the 28 European Union Member States between 1972 and 2012. The study warns of the presence in Europe's rivers and lakes of concentrations of pesticides well above permissible levels. The study covered 23 pesticides, and the limits were exceeded in nearly 40 % of the samples tested. What is worse, the same was true for 93 % of the samples of sediments, such as mud on river- and lakebeds, taken in Germany. It is clear that Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 on the evaluation and authorisation of active substances in pesticides is not ruling out unacceptable risks for people and the environment.

1. Does the Commission think that the problems stem from errors involving dosages of authorised products or of farmers breaking the rules on the amounts which may be sprayed? If it does not know, how does it propose to shed light on this matter?
2. Does the Commission plan to improve evaluation and authorisation procedures for pesticides by revising Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009?