

**Question for written answer E-002636/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (ENF)

Subject: Reduction in the safe level of Bisphenol-A

Since 2015 EFSA has reduced the recommended safe level of Bisphenol-A (BPA) from 50 micrograms to 4 micrograms per kilogram of body weight. BPA is one of several harmful chemicals that can interfere with our hormonal balance, even in small doses. Recent studies have found clear evidence that BPA harms the liver and the kidneys. In 2011 an EU Directive banned the use of this hormone-like chemical in baby bottles. However, it is still used in many everyday items, such as dummies, plastic plates, tins and the thermal paper used for receipts. Many EU citizens therefore also come into contact with this potentially carcinogenic chemical.

1. Why has the Commission so far failed to further reduce the use of BPA in the EU, even though the potential dangers are known and we observe the precautionary principle?
2. What does the Commission plan to do in order to eliminate the indisputable danger caused by BPA and to provide better protection for EU citizens?