

**Question for written answer E-008770/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Banning certain active substances of plant protection products

Various European villages and cities are banning the active substance glyphosate and glyphosate-based products from use in public places¹. The decision to ban these products is mainly taken by local political entities (e.g. city or village councils).

The Brussels *Hoofdstedelijk Gewest* has apparently decided on and implemented a ban on glyphosate not only in public places, but also on both agricultural and non-agricultural farms.

Under European legislation², the active substances (such as glyphosate, captan and chlorpyrifos) of plant protection products are authorised at European level, and products based on these active substances (e.g. RoundUp, Durban, etc.) are authorised by the individual Member States.

Also under European legislation³, the use of pesticides can be minimised or banned in certain areas.

According to Article 1 of EU Directive 2009/128/EC, the health of citizens should be protected.

1. Under what legislation can a city or village ban an active substance and products based on active substances?
2. What requirements need to be met in order to be allowed to ban products based on active substances at city or village level?
3. Is a ban on (a product based on) an active substance at village or city level in line with EU legislation?

¹ For example, parks, cemeteries, sports grounds, pavements, schoolyards, etc.

² EU Regulation 1107/2009.

³ EU Directive 2009/128 /EC - Article 12.