

**Question for written answer E-004145/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: The EU Alcohol Strategy

The EU Alcohol Strategy to support Member States in reducing alcohol-related harm was devised for the period 2006-12.

Europe has the highest levels of alcohol consumption worldwide. It is estimated that 55 million people in the EU consume harmful levels of alcohol, and, of these, 12 million are considered addicts. In spite of this, the EU strategy to reduce alcohol-related harm (2006) expired in 2012, and there are no plans to renew it.

Since 2012, apart from a non-binding Action Plan, drawn up by the Committee on National Alcohol Policy and Action (CNAPA), which the Commission does not take ownership of, there has been no policy guidance from the Commission in relation to alcohol.

The 28 health ministers of the EU have urged the Commission to adopt a comprehensive EU strategy to tackle alcohol-related harm, such as binge drinking and drink-driving. According to the conclusions of a meeting of the Ministers for Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs held on 7 December 2015, the Member States envisage that this strategy would follow up on the first EU Alcohol Strategy (2006-12).

In this context, could you provide the following information:

1. How many lives have been lost over the last five years due to alcohol consumption in the EU?
2. What is the estimated cost of these deaths to the EU economy?