

**Question for written answer E-006182/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Safe removal of asbestos in Spain and compensation for workers exposed to it

Two years after Parliament urged the Commission and the Member States to promote and closely coordinate Member States' efforts to develop national action plans to screen for, register and remove asbestos and to compensate workers exposed to it, in Spain, thousands of structures insulated with that toxic substance are still standing and countless workers are still awaiting compensation.

In view of the provisions of paragraphs 24 and 25 of European Parliament resolution of 25 November 2015 on the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 (2015/2107(INI)), European Parliament resolution of 14 March 2013 on asbestos related occupational health threats and prospects for abolishing all existing asbestos (2012/2065(INI)), Article 11 of Directive 2009/148/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to asbestos at work, the International Labour Organisation's Convention 162 and Recommendation 172, and paragraph 6.14 of the Economic and Social Committee opinion on 'Asbestos' (1999/C 138/09),

1. How does the Commission intend to encourage Spain to adopt the bill on compensating asbestos victims – following the example of France's Fonds d'Indemnisation des Victimes de l'Amiante (Asbestos Victims Compensation Fund) – tabled at the Spanish Parliament on 15 March 2017 with the support of Spain's asbestos victims associations?
2. How will the Commission comply with the above provisions by ensuring that Spain safely removes the asbestos still present in buildings and structures, starting with schools?