

**Question for written answer E-002838/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**José Inácio Faria (PPE)**

Subject: Bacteriophage regulatory framework

The exceptional characteristics and almost infinite possibilities for the application of bacteriophages, particularly in the feed and food safety industries, place bacteriophages in a unique position to combat foodborne pathogens and to treat multi-drug resistant infections in a viable and safe way.

It is understood from both industry and research scientists that it would be highly desirable to develop a specific bacteriophage regulatory framework to allow Europe to take full advantage of this very promising technology. With the crisis of antibiotic resistance growing, the development of appropriate specific legislation for bacteriophages should be a public health priority.

Noting that the EU has already funded research projects into bacteriophage therapy, specifically the Phagoburn project, and taking into account that the Commission is currently considering introducing phage-based products in the area of existing food-feed legislation, would the Commission be prepared to consider creating a bacteriophage-specific regulatory framework covering both food and feed safety and efficacy requirements<sup>1</sup>?

Supporters<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Following the letter of José Inácio Faria, Pavel Poc, Daciana Octavia Sârbu, Gilles Pargneaux and Michèle Rivasi of 2 May 2018 to Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis, requesting the immediate resumption of the authorisation procedure for the phage Listex P100 to combat the risk of *Listeria* contamination of ready-to-eat (RTE) food.

<sup>2</sup> This question is supported by Members other than the author: Daciana Octavia Sârbu (S&D), Gilles Pargneaux (S&D), Michèle Rivasi (Verts/ALE), Pavel Poc (S&D).