

**Question for written answer E-000738/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Dimitrios Papadimoulis (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Chemical hazards in food

The latest report by the European Court of Auditors on chemical hazards in our foods¹ highlights a number of weaknesses in the implementation of consumer protection legislation, possibly leading to serious risks – including premature births, affected cognitive development and cancerous tumours².

At the same time, the ECA points out that various European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) departments 'have confirmed the existence of major backlogs, especially in the area of regulated food ingredients', which have not yet been resolved, in addition to shortcomings regarding the classification of pesticides such as glyphosate³.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say when it intends to complete the delayed review of the EU list of food additives that has been pending since 2008 and the procedures it intends to follow?⁴
2. What steps will it take to meet the 2019 target date for compliance with ECA recommendations and World Trade Organisation rules on the presence of pesticide residues in food?
3. What is the reason for its ten-year failure to comply with the legislation it has adopted requiring creation of a 'nutrient profile' and to take into account the views of the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC)⁵?

¹ https://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECADocuments/SR19_02/SR_FOOD_SAFETY_EL.pdf

² See p. 58 and p. 32

³ See question by Dimitrios Papadimoulis on the use of glyphosate
<https://www.syriza.gr/article/id/74388/Apanthsh-Epitropoy-B.-Antroykaitis-se-Dhm.-Papadhmoylh:-Nomothetikh-protash-prin-apo-ton-Maio-toy-2018-gia-thn-aykshsh-ths-diafaneias-kai-ths-poiiohtas-twn-meletwn-gia-th-chrhsh-ths-glyfosaths.html>

⁴ See p. 38 of report

⁵ <http://kepka.org/mainmenu-154/deltia-typou/d-t-2019/2697-10>