

**Question for written answer P-014684/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Mihai Țurcanu (PPE)**

Subject: IARC-WHO study on the risk of cancer from red meat

At the end of October, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), which is part of the World Health Organisation, published a study placing processed meat, used in frankfurters or ham, for example, in Risk Group 1, along with tobacco, asbestos and diesel exhaust fumes.

Red meat, including beef and veal, sheepmeat, goatmeat, pigmeat, etc., has been classified as potentially carcinogenic and placed in Risk Group 2, along with substances such as glyphosate, a carcinogenic herbicide.

The classification of red meat in Risk Group 2 indicates the existence of limited evidence that it may cause cancer.

Given that red meat has been consumed for time immemorial, care must indeed be taken in making such an assessment.

In view of this:

What view does the Commission take of the claims being made by the IARC?

Will the Commission state its position publicly regarding the need to provide accurate information for European consumers and respect the rights of those working in this sector?