Question for written answer P-005540/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Norbert Erdős (PPE)

Subject: Alternatives to glyphosate?

The issue of whether or not glyphosate should be re-approved has divided Member States and the European institutions.

Glyphosate has been used for decades and is an integral part of farmers' toolbox, allowing them to produce a safe and plentiful supply of affordable food for the EU's 500 million citizens.

We in Parliament understand that the Commission is now awaiting an assessment from the European Chemicals Agency before committing to a further decision to re-approve the active substance. Nonetheless, I would like to ask the Commission the following:

- 1. Is it aware of any viable alternative to glyphosate at this point in time?
- 2. Can it give an indication of the socio-economic impact of the substance being taken off the market?